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SAMPSON COUNTY'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

# The Sampson Weekly



VOLUME 11, ISSUE 8

www.thesampsonweekly.com

Week of February 21-27, 2020

## INSIDE



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## WEATHER

**Fri** Partly Cloudy  
0%

Hi: 38° Lo: 21°

**Sat** Sunny  
0%

Hi: 52° Lo: 27°

**Sun** Partly Cloudy  
20%

Hi: 59° Lo: 36°

**Mon** Rain  
60%

Hi: 54° Lo: 46°

**Tues** Rain  
80%

Hi: 67° Lo: 56°

**Wed** Rain  
60%

Hi: 65° Lo: 42°

## SAMPSON COUNTY SEES FIRST SNOWFALL OF SEASON



On Thursday night, Sampson County residents geared up for their first possibility of snow for the 2020 winter season. The snow began around 8pm and continued until after midnight. Ranges of accumulation were anywhere from a trace in the southern part of the county to 2.5 inches in the Northeastern parts of the county. Early forecasts had predicted as much as 8 inches in some areas.

**SNOW, see P. 3**

## Garland Holds First Town Hall Meeting



Garland Mayor Winifred Murphy

On Monday night, Garland leaders held their first Town Hall Meeting with the purpose of "Connecting, Communicating & Engaging". The event was held at the Garland Baptist Church Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm. The event lasted approximately an hour and a half, and the fellowship hall was packed with town citizens who were eager to have their voices heard; an opportunity to make the town a better place to live, work and raise a family. According to Mayor Murphy, there was approximately 50 citizens in attendance.

**GARLAND, see P. 4**

## County to "Pursue" New Emergency Operations Center Costing \$17.7 Million



Chairman Clark Wooten explains the importance of a new Emergency Operations Center

At the Tuesday Sampson County Board of Commissioner's Budget Work Session, commissioners mulled over the possibility of having to increase the budget for the much-needed new Emergency Operations Center which will house the Sampson County 911 Center and the Emergency Services Operations. The buzz word of the day seemed to be "PURSUE".

It was previously announced in November that the new facility had been chiseled down to approximately \$7 million dollars. The county has already received a grant in the amount of \$3.5 million dollars which was part of the 2019 Florence Disaster Recovery Act which was passed by the NC General Assembly. The Act requires the executive branch to implement and administer disaster assistance programs for counties and municipalities impacted by Hurricane Florence (and Matthew), including Sampson County.

The grant has a time frame from October 23, 2019 through June 30, 2021, which will leave Sampson County officials searching for other grants to complete the project.

County officials have stated previously that a new Emergency Operations Center was a top priority for the county. County officials are also just as determined not to increase taxes for the building of this facility. Asst. County Manager Susan Holder responded, "We are seeking as much grant monies as possible understanding that the Board is reluctant to have additional debt that may impact our tax rate."

Holder impressed the need for the facility and the importance to the county during a disaster, "As most are aware, our Emergency Operations are housed in the former National Guard building that was built in 1956. Quite simply, this more than 60 year old building is the hub of our emergency operations, 911/communications, rescue and recovery, and plays a critical function in the NIMS structure we have adopted, and the successful orchestration of our disaster response, not to mention our everyday emergency management and emergency medical services, fire marshal and addressing operations."

**PURSUE, see P. 3**

## WEEKLY VERSE

*Be not afraid,  
O land; be  
glad and  
rejoice.  
Surely the  
LORD has  
done great  
things.  
Joel 2:21*

## WEEKLY INDEX

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★ ★ ★ KEEP ★ ★ ★  
**JUDGE  
TIM SMITH**  
DISTRICT COURT  
★ ★ ★  
**TRUST EXPERIENCE**  
★ ★ ★

Paid For By the Committee To Elect Tim Smith; Melissa Blizzard Stevens, Treasurer.



**PURSUE, cont. from P. 1**



We have had to employ sandbags to protect it in both Matthew and Florence, and it simply is inadequate to accommodate our emergency operations.”

On Tuesday, the board received a presentation on the new facility from ADW Architects where they were presented with 4 different options for the new Emergency Operations Center, each of which surpassed the original budget of \$7 million dollars.

Option A: Total sq. footage 38,777, with space for Emergency Management, Fire Marshal, 911 Center and EMS. The total project cost is estimated to be around \$19,594,970. It does it include designs for future expansions and a future climate-controlled warehouse as well.  
Option B: Total sq. footage 36,313, with a smaller space for Emergency Management, Fire Marshal, 911 Center and EMS, however maintaining square footage for each department. The total project cost is estimated to be around \$17,710,321. It does include designs for future expansions and a future climate-controlled warehouse as well. The only difference between Option A and B is the total square footage.

Option C: Total sq. Footage 20,276 with space for Emergency Management, 911 Center and Fire Marshal but not space to move EMS. The total project cost is estimated to be around \$14,795,754.

Option D: Total sq. footage 8,528 with only space for the 911 Center. This design does however prepare the site for future expansion projects. The total project cost is estimated at \$8,767,383.

The current EOC building, located on Northeast Blvd in Clinton, was constructed in 1956



**SNOW, cont. from P. 1**

In anticipation of the event Sampson County Schools closed 2 hours early on Thursday and were closed for students and staff on Friday. Clinton City Schools closed 1 hour early on Thursday and were also closed on Friday for students and staff. Sampson Community College followed suit closing on Thursday at 3pm and closed for students and staff on Friday. Local Christian Academies also closed on Friday as well. Local schools’ top priority was the safety of students and staff. Sampson County offices had a 2-hour delay on Friday morning as well.

The Sampson County DOT were geared up for the challenge, placing plows on the trucks and preparing trucks with salt and salt brine in anticipation of the frozen precipitation. According to DOT County Maintenance Engineer Keith Jackson the ice/snow removal efforts began on Interstate/primary routes. For example, I-40, NC 24, US 701, US 421, NC 242, NC 411, NC 55, NC 50, NC 96, NC 903 and NC 403. As primary routes were cleared, we began efforts to remove snow/ice from major secondary routes- SR 1001, SR 1002, SR 1004, SR 1005, SR 1006 and SR 1007.

Most residents seemed a little underwhelmed with some areas only receiving a trace. Most children got out their sleds and enjoyed the fun of the only snow of the season so far. Some children were even able to scrape up enough snow to build snowmen.

First Sergeant Bryan D Smith with the NC Hwy Patrol noted that there had not been any major roadway accidents due to the precipitation.

According to the National Weather Service, Sampson residents can however expect colder temperatures on Saturday night in the lows to upper 20’s with a slight warmer Sunday with an expected high of around 58 degrees with more rain moving in on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.



and served as a National Guard facility until released to the County in 1995. It currently houses Emergency Management and Rescue, the 911 Center, Fire Marshal and Property Addressing Services. During Hurricane Matthew and most recently Hurricane Florence in 2018, the parking lot to the building was flooded and threatened to enter the building near the 911 area. There were also major flooding issues at the Shelter Trailer Staging area as well.

According to county officials, there is major need for more operational space. In the original presentation, EMS officials stated that the “Emergency Operations Center needs expanding to accommodate effective ICS structure and rescue operations management.” Other expressed needs include: more office space; breakout rooms for meetings; more storage space and a room for large equipment.

- EMS officials stated that the facility had major challenges. Challenges noted were:
- 1- Limited kitchen/food preparation and dining areas; difficult to support deployed county personnel and incoming state and federal assets.
  - 2- Limited restroom and shower facilities to accommodate deployed resources. No air conditioning in the restroom areas.
  - 3- 911 Center needs a larger space. Currently there is no ventilation in the 911 area. Additional office and storage space are also needed.
  - 4- Current Bay Area has no ventilation and needs an additional roll up door.

The 21-acre proposed site is located off of Commerce Street in Clinton (near current Sheriff’s Office/Detention Center).

On Tuesday, each Commissioner expressed their concerns over the current facility and the need for a new facility. Chairman Clark Wooten stated that during the last couple of hurricanes, that county officials had to wade in water to get in the facility and that the building had been sandbagged.

County Manager Ed Causey stated that the board needed to decide what direction that they were wanting to go in due to the fact that the county manager’s office was seeking grants for the new project that had deadlines coming up within the next couple of weeks.

Causey also noted that the county was pursuing a grant in the amount of \$5 million, that they felt quite confident that the county would receive. If the county receives this grant in addition to the \$3.5 million dollar grant already received along with a grant of \$1 million from Golden Leaf, this means the county would have grants for the project totaling \$9.5 million. This would be leaving approximately \$8 million left to come up with.

County Finance Manager David Clack noted that the county could seek a low interest 30-year loan from the USDA with the hopes of the USDA giving the county some sort of grant as well.

After more discussion, all County Commissioners agreed that Option B was a better fit for Sampson County’s needs at the time. Option B is estimated to cost approximately \$17,710,321; well over the original estimate of \$7 million dollars.

Chairman Clark Wooten and Commissioner Jerol Kivett were a little reluctant in their decisions. Kivett said that he could go along with Option B, as long as everyone understood that the decision was to “PURSUE” Option B. This meant to be searching for funding sources such as grants that would limit the amount that the county would have to borrow.

Chairman Wooten also agreed that the county should “PURSUE” Option B and grant funding to make Option B possible. Wooten stated that it does not necessarily mean that Option B and the \$17,710,321 facility would be what the county winds up with. “We may have to settle with a much smaller option for the Emergency Operations Center.”

Throughout the Budget Work Session on Tuesday and Wednesday, Chairman Clark Wooten explained to each department the need for a new EOC Center and its total cost of well over \$17 million. “I know that each department has crucial needs, but we are going to have to work together. There is just so much money to go around.” Wooten explained that the new EOC Center was crucial to the safety and well-being of the people of Sampson County.

# LOCAL NEWS

**GARLAND, cont. from P. 1**



According to Garland Mayor Winifred Murphy, “The Board of Commissioners, community volunteers, staff and I want to find more ways to include all our community members and partners with decisions, activities, improvement, and services for the entire community. This is the first step in 2020 for increased communication, collaboration, and engagement.”

The meeting addressed community sponsored events, visioning, economic development, safety, recreation, streets, building and town services. According to Mayor Murphy, leaders hope that this will be a monthly meeting to get citizens more engaged in what is happening in Garland and to garner citizen input. “We want to know where the citizens want to put their money.”

Each church, organization and business were asked to have a representative present on Monday night to see how they can better engage and participate in the community. Mayor Murphy noted that another reason for the meeting was “To see how we can better serve you”.

Garland Board of Commissioners who were present at the meeting included Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown, Commissioner Eddie Bronson Jr and Commissioner Carolyn Robinson Melvin along with Mayor Winifred Murphy.

Mayor Pro Tem Austin Brown spoke to those in attendance about the need for improvements in Garland streets, building and infrastructure. He also spoke about


the aging sewer and water system and the cleanup of the community as a whole.

He spoke briefly on the grants that the town has received and what they are being used for such as the CDBG grants: 2014 CDBG grant for \$203,171 for sewer, 2016 CDBG for sewer \$74,923, 2017 CDBG sewer replacement for \$1,014,575, 2019 CDBG for \$707,323 which was just awarded last week to be used for sewer replacement. The town also received an Asset Inventory Assessment grant in the amount of \$150,000 which will map out the sewer lines, manholes and clean outs. The town recently received a CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization grant which will help to revitalize 7 homes in the town of Garland and build a new bathroom facility at the Connie Cain Rackley Park totaling \$750,000.

Community volunteer and Community Action Group member Wanda Simmons encouraged those in attendance to volunteer and help with community events sponsored by the town. Some of those events include the East Egg Hunt in the spring, Back to School Backpack Give Away, Community Day, Halloween Trunk-or-Treat, and the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. She also thanked resident Julian Carr for his successful new event “Music in the Park” which brings the community together during the summer months for DJ music, dancing and fellowship.

Other topics discussed at the meeting included the recent vandalism at the softball park and speeding in the town. Also, a hot topic of discussion was the resent dissolution of the police department and the need for more police presence in the community. The possibility of going back on contract with the Sheriff’s Department providing more coverage was also discussed. Mayor Murphy assured those in attendance that the Sheriff’s Department would continue to provide coverage to Garland due to the fact that they pay taxes as well. Murphy suggested that some of the residents with concerns give more input to the safety committee.

Mayor Murphy said that she was excited about the success of the first town hall. She stated, “The 1st Town Hall Meeting - “Connecting, Communicating, and Engaging” was very successful. Thank you, Garland Baptist Church, for allowing us to use your fellowship hall. About 50 citizens, church members, and/or businesses attended. Mayor Murphy & Mayor Pro Tem Brown provided basic information about the status of the town and allowed citizens to express concerns, suggestions, and to ask questions. Light refreshments were served by community volunteers. Mrs. Wanda Hill Simmons solicited engagement in town sponsored events, and many signed up to participate in leadership roles. The group expressed concerns about safety, buildings, and overall needs of the town. The 2nd town hall meeting will be held on Monday, March 16 at Garland Baptist Church at 7pm. Thanks to all who came out to begin the dialogue to make Garland a greater place to live, work, and play. Together -- “WE CAN”! It takes all of us!”



## Come out and vote for Eugene Pearsall

### House District #21 Wayne - Sampson

**EARLY VOTING: February 13, 2020 - February 29, 2020**

**ELECTION DAY: March 3, 2020**

## A WORKING MAN FOR THE PEOPLE


**EUGENE SUPPORTS:**

**EDUCATION-** He believes all North Carolina children should have the right to eduction from Public Kindergarten through Grade 12. The Education System must ensure counties have quality teachers, a safe learning environment and the educational tools to teach all children.

**HEALTH CARE-** He believes that every citizen should have a right to a compnhensive Health Care System. All families and individuals should have affordable Medical Care and Services.

**EMPLOYMENT-** He believes that employment should provide a liveable wage. He believes each county can provide job readiness training that reflects the employment needs of each County.

## WORKING TO KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE



# EUGENE ★★★ PEARSALL

## LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT

### House of Representatives District 21

### Serving Sampson and Wayne County

## "People Not Politics"

\* Paid for by Eugene Pearsall for House of Representatives Campaign

# We Should Know . . .



*Brad Hardison and Eileen Coite with J.W. Simmons host of We Should Know*

Tuesdays from 2:30 PM until 3:30 PM, J.W. Simmons hosts a show on 1170 AM and on Star channel 16 SD and 316 HD called “We Should Know”, and The Sampson Weekly will feature portions of the transcripts in our continuing efforts to bring you more coverage of what is happening in our community.

The week’s We Should Know is all about agriculture and the guests are Eileen Coite and Brad Hardison for the NC Cooperative Extension.

Eileen Coite is the County Extension Director now nearing her eighth year in Sampson County. Prior to being named director in Sampson County, Coite served 13 years as an Extension Agent for Livestock and worked in the swine industry before joining the NCCES.

Brad Hardison is an Extension Agent for Horticulture. He joined NCCES in January 2016 after a career with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture at Cherry Research Farm in Goldsboro where he worked with livestock, field and forage crops.

JW Simmons begins the show stating that Ag is an evolving industry. He asks his guests if they would agree. “Very much so,” says Eileen Coite. Brad Hardison ads, “All the time. We have research going on. We’re learning new things, new species of insects. We’re finding new seeds for plants, the new hybrids that are coming out. GMOs are a hot topic now. New chemical formulations to help fight some of these things. So, it’s always evolving, and you never stop learning.”

Simmons follows up on the issue of GMOs (genetically modified Organism) and asks his guest to discuss the issue of GMOs versus the trend toward antibiotic free organically grown foods.

Coite begins by saying, “It’s all about marketing of course. And we all want to be healthy. So, when you think about it, we want our meat to be antibiotic free Society has a tendency to be scared of some things like GMOs. It doesn’t mean that GMOs are all bad. You know, there are things we do to plants to make them healthier and to grow better. But when you talk about organic there’s a bunch of hoops you have to jump through to be organic certified.”

“If you want to buy all organic food, there’s nothing wrong with that. But what I want people to know is that’s not saying that if there’s food out there that’s not organic it doesn’t mean that its all bad. And when you talk about the antibiotic free things or the grass fed and all that; all of our meat is antibiotic free. Now there may be some chicken out there or beef where that animal was treated with an antibiotic because they got sick, but we have what’s called withdrawal times. There is a period of time that the farmer has to wait before that animal is harvested and before that meat ends up in the grocery store where that antibiotic is gone.”

“But the difference is in an antibiotic free situation you can’t even treat that animal. So, if they get real sick, they will probably never end up at the grocery store anyway.”

Simmons adds that that animal could possibly infect the rest of the heard. Simmons goes on to say that from his time on a farm the livestock industry has also seen radical changes. He also suggests that if people are concerned about GMOs, they should take a deeper look at the plant-based foods livestock is fed today.

“Yes, they really should”, says Hardison. “And like Eileen said, it’s a lot of marketing. But just one horticultural crop I’ll speak about with GMOs let’s talk about pecans. There are thousands of pecan trees in Sampson County. People growing them in their yards. We have several large orchards here and we have a lot of small orchards growing. Pecans are a growing industry here in Sampson County and if you look at the life of a pecan tree from a research aspect. If we’re trying to get a better pecan tree, one that is more resistant to scab which is the major disease of pecan trees it takes, from a researcher, seven years to start that tree from a seed to nut producing. If we’re trying to select a codon bar for that you take thousands of trees and set them out in a plot. Through natural selection you pick out the best codon bar you might get 10 out of those thousands.”

“Then you take those ten and plant them out in a research plot and your looking at seven more years of evaluating those ten trees. Now you’re at 14 years. Then once you get those ten evaluated then you put them in an actual production setting for seven more years. So, you’re almost at 21 years before you say this tree may be valuable enough that we can recommend it for production.”

Hardison adds, “Then you have to take that tree and graft it to get the numbers up to sell it. You’re looking at 30 years from the time you select that codon bar until you tell a grow that this is a good codon bar. You can take a GMO, which this isn’t happening yet, but theoretically you could actually go in there in select in DNA those traits for scab resistance out of those good trees that are scab resistant place it in some of these newer trees and you can cut that time in half from these trees we’re researching to telling a producer that this is a tree we can recommend. So, in the horticultural industry its really a time thing for a pecan tree.”

“And does it hurt anything,” asks Hardison. “It just cuts down some of those natural selection processes that takes so long and goes down to the DNA level where you can actually insert some of those genes from one to another tree.”

To view the entire broadcast of We Should Know please visit their YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/user/StarVisionCable](http://www.youtube.com/user/StarVisionCable).

The next “We Should Know” hosted by J.W. Simmons will air next Tuesday from 2:30 to 3:30 PM on our local radio station WCLN 1170 AM and on Star channel 16 SD and 316 HD. If you would like to reach “We Should Know” you may call them at 910-592-8947 or email them with show ideas at [weshouldknowedu@gmail.com](mailto:weshouldknowedu@gmail.com) or you can find them on Facebook.

## Sampson County VITAL STATS

**Deaths**  
-Doris Dale Allen  
-William Douglas Godwin  
-Robert Lee Grantham Jr  
-Andrew Herring  
-Peterson Harris Haywood  
-James Thomas Howard  
-Clarence Eugene Jernigan  
-Pearline Smith  
-Edith Southerland  
-Marjorie Arlena Shaw  
-Pansy Lenelle Tarver

**Marriage Certificates**  
-Kenneth Scott Foster to Virginia Lendora Williams  
-David Isaias Castro Vasquez to Gloria Tomas Montano  
-Robert Jackson Strickland Jr to Peggy Ann Hughes Feltes  
-Gregory Allen Honeycutt to April Christine Stewart

**Births**  
-Austin Levi Lopez born on January 27, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Angelica Ramirez  
-Raheem Azrael Serrano Johnson born on January 31, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Roxanna Serrano  
-Alan Febrazio Tapia Manriquez born on January 31, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Porfirio Tapia Villegas Jr and Maria Lourdes Manriquez Rosas  
-Adam Reed Hazelwood born on February 1, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Chad Wayne Hazelwood and Michaela Brook Mercer  
-Luna Yanely Acosta Acosta born on February 6, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Carlos Alfredo Acosta Moradel and Lilian Yanely Acosta Montalban  
-Ya’Nyse Renee Ann Davis born on February 6, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Kristopher Marquise Faison and Yatazia Laquitta Davis  
-Broly Costantino Ortiz born on February 7, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Costantino Ortiz and Dakota Dannielle Busch  
-Amelia Grace Braswell born on February 10, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Christopher Caleb Braswell and Marbella Yaneli Braswell  
-Alyssia Jemiah Heath born on February 10, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Antonio Jerome Heath and Dazha Alyce Jones  
-Keisa Elizabeth Padilla born on February 11, 2020 at Sampson Regional Medical Center to Denis Alfredo Padilla and Elizabeth Vazquez De La Piedra

**Land Transfers**  
-Gloria Bennett, Gregory Keith Bennett to Francisco Martinez Diaz, Victoria Palma Ventura- 0.36 Acres North Clinton  
-Mildred Carter Matthis, Amanda M Worley, Jeffrey D Worley to Amanda M Worley, Jeffrey D Worley- 1.24 Acres Lot 3 Lisbon  
-Prosperous Management Inc to T&T Boys Inc- Lot 34 Henry’s Landing Subdivision  
-Brian Jonathan Boykin, Josetta Boykin to Stephanie Boykin Faison- Lot 2 2.24 Acres McDaniels  
-Briana H Balance, Bryan Balance, Michelle G Barefoot, Timothy D Barefoot, Brandy P Joyner, Courtney L Joyner, Danielle P Joyner, Robert Joyner, Andrew N Swanson, Nichole J Swanson to Jennifer Nicole Mills Britt, Beal O Britt- 1.14 Acres Lot 4 of the Lona McCullen Lands Newton Grove  
-William Rodney Jackson/MGR, Jackson Family Investments LLC to Deborah Page Jackson- 1.06 Acres Dismal  
-Thornton Logging Company to Adrian Garcia, Maria Garcia- South River

-E Dale Parker/EXR, Mildred Johnson Parker Estate to WF Partnership- 60.975 Acres Newton Grove  
-AG and AM LLC, Luther D Starling/MGR to Willie L Rackley- 19.01 Acres w/ exceptions North Clinton  
-James L Bjork to Jason Pitt McLellan- 0.64 Acres South Clinton  
-Gordon B Meyer, Mary Anne E Meyer to Michael Lynn Chestnutt- 26.65 Acres Taylors Bridge  
-Charles Ray Best, Lois A Best to Ivana J Williams- 2 Tracts North Clinton  
-Kathleen Ellen Stein to James W Lucas- 5.00 Acres w/exceptions Turkey  
-Earl Scott Pope, Margaret Royal Pope to Meredith Pope Smith, Sean Michael Smith- Lot 1B 1.47 Acres Herring  
-Gary M Herring Jr/MGR, Mary Mack’s Development LLC to Eric Haywood McLemore- 3.53 Acres Newton Grove  
-Laura E Goodrich, William John Goodrich Jr to KS&L Fann Family Farm LLC- 2 Tracts Honeycutt  
-Brian Keith Radford, Ryan Keith Radford/AKA to Erin Grave Allen, Ronnie Glenn Allen Sr- 18.11 Acres w/exceptions Newton Grove  
-Eldon Dwight Sutton Sr/By AIF, Jean S Sutton/AIF, Jean S Sutton to Grimes Road Trust, Heyward Wall/TR- 2 Tracts w/exceptions Piney Grove  
-William Earl Faircloth to Johnny Dean Faircloth- 0.3 Acres w/exceptions Little Coharie  
-Yolanda Sheree Crumpler Raynor, Dennis L Raynor, Yolanda S Rayner to Yolanda Sheree Rayner - Lot 9 of the RL Patterson Lots  
-Dennis L Rayner, Yolanda S Rayner to Dennis L Rayner- 1 Acre North Clinton  
-William Earl Faircloth to William Shawn Hobbs- Lot 14 of the Wade H Howard Subdivision Little Coharie  
-A Lee Royal Family Trust, A Lee Royal Trust, A Lee Royal, Gertrude P Royal/TR, Martha R Shafer/TR to Gertrude P Royal - 9.70 Acres  
-Kelby C Moore to H&H Farms LLC- 26.30 Acres Lot 2 Piney Grove  
-Graham Rayford Williams, Jeanette Williams, Ray Williams/AKA to Kimbrell Ray Williams, Lou Ann Williams- 150 Acres w/exceptions Little Coharie  
-W McCaskill/TR, Mesa Verde Capital Trust to Noe Rodriguez- 2 Lots South Clinton  
-Raeford Daughtry, Willa P Daughtry to Anthony Dewayne Dunn, Jamie McCullen Dunn- Tract 2 0.79 Acres Westbrooks  
-April Hayes Jordan, Carl Marion Jordan, Christopher Alton Jordan, Jeffrey Dwight Jordan, Nicholas Allen Jordan, Rebecca B Jordan to Michael Raymond Fayola-Lot 2 0.79 Acres Honeycutt  
-Donald R carter, Loretha M Carter to Erica B Faircloth, Patrick Faircloth- Lot 3C 0.82 Acres South Clinton  
-John M Cooper, Karen M Cooper to Philip E Williams- 0.52 Acres Little Coharie  
-Thornton Homes Co to Lilian Nayrobi Morales Garcia, Juan Corenjo Juanchi- North Clinton  
-Margarita Mirrayda Lira, Pedro Lira Romero to Elvia Espana Crespo- Lot 1 Acre South River  
-Lewis Morris Fetterman III to Lewis Morris Fetterman III, Madeline P Fetterman- Lot 3 Block E of the DJ Rivenbark Subdivision North Clinton  
-Mary Jordan Thornton, William Keith Thornton to Rodolfo Gonzalez Patlan, Maribel Romero Rosales- Lot 3 1.74 Acres Halls  
-Lesly Jhohona Arega Jacome, Allan Osiel Murillo Reyes to Roxy Drive LLC- 0.026 Acres North Clinton  
-James Doyle Wise, Pamela Langston Wise to Xiu Ni, Liuxia Xiao- Lot 8 Block N Weeksdale Newton Grove  
-Billy L Kersey, Robin L Kersey to Javier Bautista Ocampo, Silvia Bautista Ocampo, Hector Lopez Santos- Lot 26-A 1.37 Acres Piney Grove  
-Sammy S Isenhour to James Daniel Isenhour- 2 Tracts w/exceptions Westbrook and Mingo  
-HG Group of NC LLC, Jeremy Tyndall/MBR/MGR, Larry Tyndall/MBR/MGR to Isidro Mendez, Maria Estrellita Ruiz Sotelo- Lot 4 0.71 Acres Dismal  
-Ignacio J Chavez, Hazel E Smith to Allyson Renee Moore- 2.07 Acres Tract 2 Franklin  
-Mary A Williamson, Michael L Williamson to DOT- 3.895 Acres South Clinton and 6.445 Acres South Clinton

# Managing Your Medications Has Never Been Easier



## A Helpful Solution: Presorted Medications by Time and Day We Offer Weekly Pill Packs

- Organize your prescriptions and over-the-counter medications
- Ensures that you are taking your medications correctly
- Makes you feel confident and enjoy a peace of mind
- Serves as a helpful reminder to take medications
- Easy to keep up with and easy access
- **FREE SERVICE; WE DELIVER!**



## MATTHEWS



Health Mart  
PHARMACY

408 Northeast Blvd

910-592-2343

Jordan Shopping Center

## RISE UP – REFUEL

*Presented by...*



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>  
SAMPSON AGRI EXPO CENTER  
414 WARSAW RD  
CLINTON, NC 28328

**RISE UP!** Come to this free community event and get **REFUELED**,  
**WHAT TO BRING...** 1 canned food item for the Salemburg Food Bank.

### WHAT TO EXPECT...



### GOOD SAMARITAN AWARD

This recipient does great things for our community  
serving selflessly and impacting many lives.

**Pictured:** Jeff Draughon, 2019 winner

### OUTSTANDING YOUTH GROUP

And the winner is... Find out at  
RISE UP – REFUEL 2020

**Pictured:** Mingo Youth Group, 2019 winner



**1pm** Mission projects,  
praise, shopping,  
& meet the guests  
**2pm** Marksmen, His  
Voice, Awards, Pat  
Montgomery,  
Shiloh Church  
Choir  
**4:30** Snack supper &  
more shopping

**Please join us!**  
**Tim's Gift**  
**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Christian**  
**Conference!**



**Nathan Shelton**



Meet the **Grateful Shed**  
Enjoy their cooking!



## 2020 Rise Up-Refuel Sponsors

### Platinum

- Group Benefits & Commercial Services
- Jart Hudson Farms
- Matthews Drugs
- Pearson Crop Insurance
- Salem Pizza
- Smith's Enterprise

### Gold

- Clinton Truck & Tractor
- Hog Slat
- Low Starling
- Performance Dodge/Ford
- Shady Branch Farms
- STAR Communications

### Silver

- B.J. Williamson Gas
- Clinton Drug
- David Hobson Law Firm
- Nissan of Clinton
- U.S. Foods
- TOY Farms
- Ribeyes of Clinton

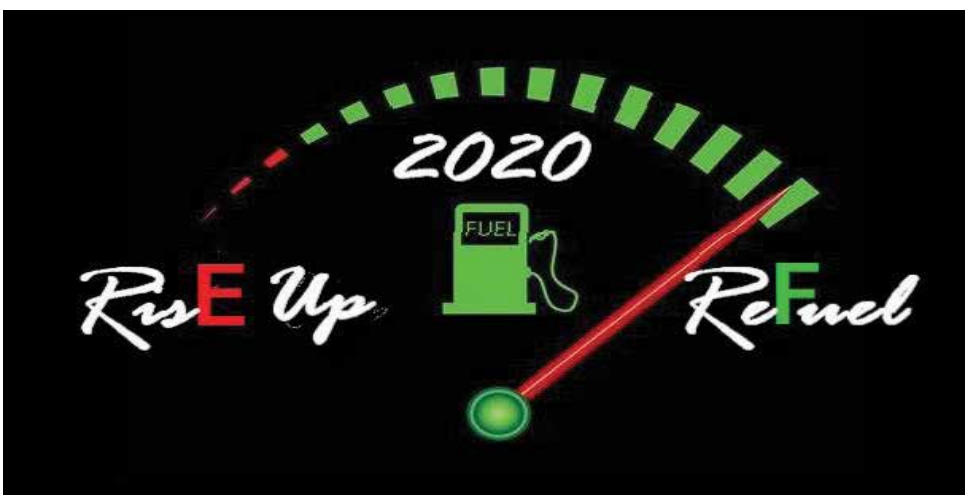


*Jenna Grace Bowker- Garments  
for Gospel*

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## ...by God's Grace



Why Rise Up – Refuel? For nine years, God has blessed Tim's Gift to host a local Christian Gathering with sponsors, speakers, singers, volunteers, and people to come experience the good things He is doing in our community. Each year Rise Up has a theme to challenge people to come closer to Christ.

Rise Up – Refuel 2020 promises to be filled with blessings for people of all ages who come on Sunday – Feb. 23rd from 1 to 5pm. The day after Rise Up – Rejoice 2019, I was dusting shelves in Tim's Gift library when a small red book titled - REFUEL – seeded to scream my name when my cloth pulled the tiny book from the shelf. Finding the Refuel book was a divine sign that has kept Jennifer, Diane, and myself REFUELED for twelve months as we've prepared for 2020 Rise Up – REFUEL!

God still speaks and orders our steps when we take time to refuel daily by living by Jesus' example and reaching out to help His children in need. We, at Tim's Gift, are grateful to have community support as we strive to give help and hope to people in need here at home. You can help us by attending Rise Up – Refuel and enjoying an afternoon filled with prayer, praises, and people being REFUELED!

It is By God's Grace that we, at Tim's Gift, are blessed daily to give help and hope to people here at home. Each day HE refuels as we pray for direction and discernment to do what is right and good in His sight. Our greatest joy comes when we pray with those He sends and they leave REFUELED. Our prayer is that you will Rise Up on Sunday, February 23rd and attend church, have a quick lunch, and head to The Agri-Expo Center to be REFUELED and enjoy local people sharing His Songs and stories.

See you Sunday, February 23rd at Sampson Agri-Expo Center from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm!

~ In His love, Becky

## The Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives:

# LOVE

By Diane Lough

We are looking at the fruit of LOVE this week as one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. There seven Greek words that are used to define love. Here are the four most prominent:

1. Agape: Unconditional love; the love of God in the renewed mind in manifestation.
2. Phileo: Love between friends
3. Eros: The sense of being in love; romantic love
4. Storge: Love of family

Source:(gods-word-first.org. Minister Daniel Sweet)

Love, as the fruit of the Spirit in our lives is the Agape kind! In John 13:34, Jesus commands us to love one another as he loves us. When Jesus died on the cross for each of us, he ultimately gave us the true Agape love.

When we genuinely act on this fruit given to us from the Holy Spirit, our hearts and minds are tender. There is only room in our hearts and minds to share love. Love pushes out any other thoughts and emotions. It is a generous, unconditional love for someone specific, or a group of people. We make a deliberate decision to love without anything in return. You hand over your last bit of money to someone in need. You carry groceries to the car for someone who is having difficulty with the task. You help someone walk across a busy street. You wrap the swollen legs of a woman who suffers from diabetes and cannot do herself. You forgive a debt owed to you. You mix and pour concrete to help a village family in central America have cement floor instead of sleeping on dirt. You pay for someone to enjoy a meal. You buy a fan for an elderly person who stays at home. You listen to your neighbor who has no one else to talk with concerning life issues.

At Tim's Gift, we witness Agape love weekly! The Holy Spirit meets us here daily with His fruit of love as people come in with pure, unconditional love to help someone in need and ask for nothing in return. When you witness this type of love, you yearn to receive this type fruit of the Holy Spirit to share with someone else!

# What's Happening

By Angela Martin

at **SCT**



“The Little Mermaid” is being prepared for your entertainment with our large cast. This production is directed by Angela Martin and will be presented on April 24-26 and May 1-3. The tickets will be on sale soon at Matthews Gifts and at InkSpot- be on the lookout for tickets coming soon. Our primary sponsor for our production is David Hobson, Attorney at Law. We are so very happy to have Mr. Hobson and his law firm once again supporting the arts program here in Sampson County. Two of our many actors that will be performing in The Little Mermaid is Jonathan Daniels and Ruth Ann Parker. Jonathan will be portraying Sebastian the crab. Jonathan is the husband of Brandie Daniels and the father of three and is a Associate Pastor and Youth Minister at Benson Pentecostal Holiness Church. Jonathan has appeared in productions at SCT including - “Shrek” and “Mary Poppins.”. Ruth Ann Parker is the wife of Michael Parker and they have three children. Ruth Ann reaches at Harrells Christian Academy. She has been in numerous productions at SCT including “It’s a Wonderful Life” (three times portraying Mary Hatch Bailey) and also in “Beauty and the Beast” and “Little Shop of Horrors.” Ruth Ann will be portraying our villainess, Ursula the Sea Witch.

Be sure to come out to see your friends and neighbors present “The Little Mermaid.”



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The story of Buck, a big-hearted dog whose blissful domestic life is turned upside down when he is suddenly uprooted from his California home and transplanted to the exotic wilds of the Alaskan Yukon during the Gold Rush of the 1890s

**Fri 6:30p 8:30p**

**Sat-Sun 2:00p 5:00p 8:00p**

**Mon-Wed 6:30p**



### SONIC THE HEDGEHOG

**NOW SHOWING**

**Rated PG for action, some violence, rude humor and brief mild language**

A live-action adventure comedy based on the global blockbuster videogame franchise from Sega that centers on the infamously brash bright blue hedgehog. The film follows the (mis)adventures of Sonic as he navigates the complexities of life on Earth with his newfound human best friend Tom Wachowski

**Fri 6:30p 8:30p**

**Sat-Sun 1:30p 3:45p 6:00p 8:15p**

**Mon-Wed 6:30p**



### BIRDS OF PREY AND THE FANTABULOUS EMANCIPATION OF ONE HARLEY QUINN

**NOW SHOWING**

**Rated R for strong violence and language throughout, and some sexual and drug material**

When Gotham’s most nefariously narcissistic villain, Roman Sionis, and his zealous right-hand, Zsasz, put a target on a young girl named Cass, the city is turned upside down looking for her. Harley, Huntress, Black Canary and Renee Montoya’s paths collide, and the unlikely foursome have no choice but to team up to take Roman down.

**Fri 7:00p**

**Sat-Sun 2:00p 5:00p 8:00p**

**Mon-Wed 6:30p**



### BAD BOYS FOR LIFE

**NOW SHOWING**

**Rated R for strong bloody violence, language throughout, sexual references and brief drug use**

The Bad Boys Mike Lowrey (Will Smith) and Marcus Burnett (Martin Lawrence) are back together for one last ride.

**Fri 7:00p**

**Sat-Sun 1:30p 4:30p 7:30p**

**Mon-Wed 6:30p**



### THE PHOTOGRAPH

**NOW SHOWING**

**Rated R for sexuality and brief strong language**

When famed photographer Christina Eames unexpectedly dies, she leaves her estranged daughter Mae Morton (Rae) hurt, angry and full of questions. When a photograph tucked away in a safe-deposit box is found, Mae finds herself on a journey delving into her mother’s early life and ignites a powerful, unexpected romance with a rising-star journalist, Michael Block

**Fri 7:30p**

**Sat-Sun 2:00p 5:00p 8:00p**

**Mon-Wed 6:30p**

**Senior Day Every  
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FLASH IN THE PAN

# Nachos for breakfast

Just add eggs and veggies

Migas are about improvisation, and that spirit lives on in this dish. [ARI LEVAUX]

By Ari LeVaux  
More Content Now

Migas are a delicacy as old as tortillas. The word is Spanish for “crumbs” — specifically the crumbs of tortillas of a certain age. In the U.S., the tortilla fragments are usually served with salsa, beans and sour cream. The basic concept of cooking old chip shards has been independently invented countless times by folks who are weary of dipping increasingly smaller chips into their bowl of salsa, and wish for some way to use those tasty, unwieldy crumbs at the bottom of the bag. That weary tortilla eater was me when I “invented” migas.

I found myself staring down the dregs of a bag of La Cocina de Josefina tortilla chips, determined to not allow that resource to go to waste. Taking the obvious route, I fried the little crumbs with bacon. The eggs followed the bacon, and the salsa followed everything. After that, and ever since, the bottom of a bag has been a time to rejoice. These days, I sometimes don’t wait for the crumbs. Instead, I make a migas variation with whole, unbroken chips. Breakfast Nachos, as I call them, are for when migas just aren’t big enough. I soak the chips in beaten egg, and pan fry them with vegetables. This treatment gives the formerly crunchy chips a moist, pliable

texture that’s somewhere between a tamale and a cheesy enchilada. This eggy tortilla matrix can absorb whatever vegetables and proteins you could think to add, with each addition cooked as needed so as to be ready when the eggs are done. Bright green broccoli florets may not be a typical topping for nachos, but the egg helps it fit in. Fry ground meat ahead of time. Add leftover pulled pork at the last minute. Ultimately, migas are about improvisation, and that spirit lives on in my Breakfast Nachos. I’ve even swapped the corn chips for potato chips, and would do it again if necessary. But one thing I won’t be doing is waiting for the end of a bag to make my migas.

## Breakfast Nachos

Breakfast Nachos are pan-fried like migas, rather than baked like nachos. You need a pan with a tight-fitting lid, preferably a heavy pan that can hold heat. Unless it’s a really big pan you should prepare this dish one serving at a time, as you would an omelet. In today’s rendition I’ve included carrots and spinach, as they are currently in season, but you could prepare it with whatever vegetables you care to eat with breakfast. Jalapenos are good. Mushrooms, too.

- Makes 1 large serving**
- 2 eggs
  - ¼ cup milk
  - 2 cups whole corn chips (shake the cup so they settle)
  - 1 carrot, sliced into ¼-inch thick rounds
  - 2 tablespoons oil (or bacon or side pork, chopped)
  - 1 clove garlic, minced
  - 1 handful spinach or baby bok choy
  - ½ cup (loosely packed) grated cheese
  - Serve with: salsa, coffee

Beat the eggs and milk in an oversized bowl. Add the chips and gently toss them so they are completely coated, and sitting in a pool of egg wash.

Heat the pan on medium. Add the carrot and oil or chopped bacon, everything scattered so each piece makes contact with the pan. Give it a stir after about 4 minutes. After another 2 minutes, add the garlic, stir everything around, add the spinach on top and cook another minute. Add the soggy chips and quickly give them a gentle stir to mix them with the carrots, garlic and spinach. Spread the chips evenly around the pan, then add the remains of the egg wash, sprinkle the cheese on top, and cover.

Cook for a minute with the lid on, then take a peek. If it looks like it’s setting up, with the egg on top looking close to cooked and the cheese melting, then turn it off and let it finish in place on the hot stove. If it’s not quite there, cook another 30 seconds with the lid on and check again. Repeat until it’s almost there, then turn off the heat and let the pan sit covered for about 10 minutes.

Stack it all into a steaming pile, and serve with copious amounts of salsa and coffee.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**TIP OF THE WEEK**  
**Brown foods can be healthy addition to diet**

Numerous studies have shown brown foods are superior in nutritional value than their white counterparts. Foods such as brown rice, brown flour and brown sugar are deemed to be healthier because the process of milling and refining (white foods) strips the grains of it nutrients, while brown foods retain the minerals and vitamins that are present in the outer bran or husk. Along with gaining more nutrients, brown foods can also help fight obesity and disease. For example, evidence has been found that eating brown rice instead of white can help people maintain their weight, and white rice intake increases the risk of type 2 diabetes. While brown rice, brown flour and brown sugar are ingredients that can be used to get more nutrients in your diet, here are a few other brown foods you can use, according to Firstpost.com. **Walnuts:** For skin and hair health. Walnuts have also been shown to fight diabetes

and heart disease. **Almonds:** Fights cholesterol and diabetes; helps prevent kidney stones.

**Chickpeas:** Available in several varieties, chickpeas can be a source of protein and minerals.

**Potatoes:** Provide essential carbohydrates and are a source of vitamin B6.

**Dates:** High in iron content and may reduce the risk of anaemia and heart diseases.

**Flaxseeds:** Provide healthy fats, antioxidants and dietary fiber.

**Jaggery:** Can help flush out toxins from the body, while may fight signs of aging, indigestion and liver damage.

**Brown spices:** Cinnamon, nutmeg, cumin and star anise are rich in antioxidants and contain anti-inflammatory benefits.

**DRINK**  
**Drinking coffee on an empty stomach**

According to HealthLine.com, although coffee increases the production of stomach acid, research has shown that drinking on an empty stomach doesn’t appear to cause digestive issues for most people.

**FUN FACT**  
**One banana, two bananas**

A cluster of bananas is formally called a “hand,” while a single banana is called a “finger.”

More Content Now

## FLEUR DE LOLLY

Break out the air fryer for this recipe



Laura Tolbert

I’m sure some readers received an air fryer as a gift this past Christmas season. A few months ago, I was given a PowerXL Air Fryer Pro for testing purposes and to share the results with the readers of my blog. This appliance is not only an air fryer, but also has a rotisserie option along with skewers for kebabs. If you’re like me and grew fresh herbs this past summer, it’s always sad when the frost comes and destroys them. PowerXL Air Fryer Pro to the rescue! I was able to dehydrate my aromatic plants to use over the winter season. The air fryer doesn’t need oil for cooking, but instead uses dry heat like a convection oven. The hot air rotating around the food gives it a crispy exterior without all the added calories from oil frying.

### Cajun Chicken Wings

Instead of shaking and baking, we’re going to dip, coat and air fry! Use whichever flavor you prefer. I added Cajun seasoning into the wet batter and also into the dry mix for the coating to really amp up the flavor.



Cajun Chicken Wings. [LAURA TOLBERT]

- 4 pounds chicken wings, separated and tips removed and discarded
- 1 box chicken fry mix
- 2 tablespoons Cajun seasoning
- ½ cup water

Mix ⅓ cup fry mix, 1 tablespoon Cajun seasoning and ½ cup water in a medium bowl. Pour about 1 cup fry mix onto a plate or into a plastic bag along with 1 tablespoon Cajun Seasoning.

Spray the airflow racks lightly with non-stick spray.

Dip chicken wings, one piece at a time, in the batter. Shake off excess. Roll chicken in fry mix until evenly coated. Discard any remaining mixture and fry mix.

Place chicken wings on racks in a single layer. Place trays into air fryer and turn the unit on. Press the “chicken leg” icon, increase the temperature to 400 degrees and increase the cooking time to 40 minutes.

Halfway through cooking time, rotate the racks so that the top rack goes to the bottom, and the others move up one level. Continue frying until the time is up, and the internal temperature of the chicken is 165 degrees.

We preferred not to toss these in sauce, but to enjoy the ultimate crunchy coating on the wings. The spice level was “just enough heat.” Still, you could certainly increase the amount of Cajun seasoning used or omit it entirely.

Laura Tolbert, also known as Fleur de Lolly, has been sharing recipes and advice for fellow foodies and novices on her blog, fleurdelolly.blogspot.com, for more than eight years. She won the Duke’s Mayonnaise 100th Anniversary nationwide recipe contest for her Alabama White BBQ Sauce. You can contact her at facebook.com/fleurdelolly.5, on Instagram, and at fleurdelolly@yahoo.com.



FREEPIK

# PERFORMANCE AUTO “STAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK”

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## Mintz's Katelyn Fann Enjoys Leading Teams to Success



Photo by Mike Carter

Mintz Christian Academy's Katelyn Fann is enjoying her junior year at the school. The 16-year-old started the school year off with a bang by going 18-0 on her volleyball team; she recently finished the Lions basketball season with a 6-5 record; and she is currently preparing for the upcoming softball season.

"I am excited about it," Fann, who is a captain on the softball team, said. "Everything is looking pretty good."

This week, Fann has been named the Performance Auto/Sampson Weekly Star Athlete of the Week, an honor she was surprised about.

"I was surprised," she admits. "But I am very honored that my coach thought that much of me to even nominate me. It feels good."

Born and raised in Roseboro, Fann got her start playing rec ball when she was about "6 or 7" years old.

"I started playing soccer and basketball," she remembers. "Then I as I got older, I moved on to volleyball and softball."

Since the eighth grade, Fann has been playing travel ball with LAVA (Lakewood Area Volleyball Association). "I didn't play in my ninth-grade year," she admits. "But I have been playing with them since ... It has helped my game a lot."

She said she got involved with sports thanks to her older sister, Savannah, and her parents, Huey and Amy.

"Well, I got a chance to watch my sister play because she played at Mintz," Fann explains. "So, I would go to all of her games ... My dad played sports too, so it was kind of natural for me."

Being around her sister's teams helped make her transition easier.

"I knew a lot of the people there (at Mintz) because I was around them all the time because I was here with my sister," Fann said. "So, when it came time for me to play, the transition was easy for me."

In fact, when asked her favorite memory of school, Fann says it's the time she got her first kill in volleyball.

"My sister was in her final year (at Mintz) and she was a setter," explains Fann. "It was my first year playing. She set me up and I got my first kill ... It was pretty special."

Although she has another year and a few months until she leaves high school, Fann knows it will be hard to leave the school that she feels like are her second family.

"I absolutely love it at Mintz," Fann says. "It will be bittersweet. I've been there my whole life. It is going to be a big transition for me, because I am going to miss it. But I am definitely looking forward to what's next."

The 'A-B' student, who is in dual enrollment at Sampson Community College, says she is planning on going to college.

"I do not want to play sports in college," Fann says flatly. "But I would consider playing club ball."

She said she wants to study "Agri-Business" at N.C. State University.

"I've grown up around farmers and enjoy talking to them," Fann said. "I would love to come back to Sampson County after college."

Fann, whose favorite subject is chemistry, is a natural leader, which is why she is a captain on her softball and volleyball teams.

"I think it is a good thing for me," she says of being a captain. "I like being there for my friends and teammates and leading them when we need it. It feels good."

In her free time, Fann likes to go fishing or you can find her talking with customers at her grandfather's store McDaniel's Mercantile. "I just like going there, hanging out and talking to people," she said. "It's a lot of fun for me."

When asked who she would like to thank, Fann thanks her family. "My parents have been awesome," she says. "They have always supported me and have made the sports I play enjoyable."

She also thanks her coach Dan Heinz. "He's been my coach since sixth grade," Fann said. "He really works with attitude, but he's also a great person and a great coach."

## PERFORMANCE AUTOMOTIVE SALUTES THE STUDENT ATHLETE OF THE WEEK!

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## EDUCATION

## Distinguished Educator 2020



**Dr. Eric Bracy, Superintendent Sampson County Schools**

The 2020 Distinguished Educator Award was presented to Dr. Eric Bracy, Superintendent of Sampson County Schools this year. The Distinguished Educator Award is presented to a member of the association who has made significant contributions in the areas of curriculum and instruction as a teacher or administrator as attested by (a) innovative program initiation, (b) improved or increased achievement or performance of students, and (c) a demonstrated increase in the efficiency and effectiveness with which fiscal, human, and/or physical resources are used.

The 2019 Lighthouse School Awards were given to Plain View Elementary and Sunset Avenue School in Clinton.



**Plain View Elementary receives the Lighthouse Award for 2019**



**Sunset Avenue School in Clinton receives the Lighthouse Award for 2019**

## Former SCC Student Set to Begin Dual Degree Graduate Program at Campbell in the Fall



**PHOTO/CREDIT: Sophie Miller at Campbell University. (Sophie Miller)**

When she graduated high school in 2016, Sophie Miller knew she wasn't prepared to leave home and attend a large university. Instead, she found her place at Sampson Community College. There, she discovered courses and professors that challenged her and a like-minded community of students.

Making the decision to attend SCC was simple for Miller. Immediately, she saw the benefits of attending SCC—benefits like smaller classes, one-on-one relationships with professors, and a community of tight-knit peers. The accessibility of the students and staff at SCC

appealed to her. "Having the smaller class sizes was really nice for me... because through that I was able to get to know my professors really well and I was able to go to their offices really often and I really used that time to get to know them and they got to know me," Miller says.

Miller emphasizes that her time at SCC wasn't spent "breezing through." The coursework at Sampson Community College pushes students. Professors have high expectations and classes are rigorous. "I definitely felt like I was challenged, and that SCC prepared me," Miller stated.

She added that some of her professors at SCC were the most challenging instructors she's encountered during college. Those rigorous courses and instructors prepared her for coursework at North Carolina State University (NCSU), where she'll graduate in May with a Bachelor of Science in Human Biology and double minors in microbiology and forensic science.

Still, SCC prepared Miller for more than her academics. As a recipient of the Foundation's SCC Ambassador Scholarship, Miller spent a significant amount of time serving as a student ambassador, volunteering with different departments on campus, and working with other students. Now at NCSU, Miller volunteers as a Transfer Student Peer Mentor, helping make the transition easier for transfer students. Miller says, "So many factors help me say that Sampson was the best choice for me and helped me be prepared."

Miller even spent time speaking at various events for the Foundation. Dean of Advancement and Executive Director of the Foundation, Lisa Turlington, says Miller's appreciation shined through each time she spoke at events. Turlington shared these thoughts, "It was a pleasure having Sophie be involved with Foundation events. The audience appeared so moved by her enthusiasm and authenticity at each event."

Studying at SCC allowed Miller to work part-time at Matthews Drug Store while taking classes. She saved money for her eventual move to Raleigh and NCSU, and it was there that she discovered her passion. Matthews Drug Store is where Miller developed an initial interest in pharmacy and began to commit to her goal of attending pharmacy school. Being at SCC and working at Matthews gave Miller the chance to explore pharmacy without fully committing to the process. Her time at SCC gave her the flexibility to test out different classes before choosing pharmacy, something she believes would've been more difficult anywhere else.

This fall, Miller will begin a dual degree program at Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C. This is a five-year program where Miller will complete a Master of Public Health in one year and complete her Doctor of Pharmacy degree in four years. For the first year, she'll return to work at Matthews Drug Store while completing her courses.

The choice to complete a dual degree program came down to one thing—being a better healthcare professional. Miller emphasized one main thing about including the Master of Public Health in her graduate studies, "It gives me the opportunity to work more one on one in my community in a way that benefits everyone and helps me understand what people are going through."

When Miller was in high school, her family moved from their fast-paced world in Raleigh to rural Clinton, but she fell in love. She says this transition was "an eye-opener." For Miller, Clinton quickly began to feel like home and became a place she cared for deeply. Ultimately, Miller wants to be an educated healthcare professional and be attuned to the needs of her community, not just a coat in a lab.

Miller advises others struggling to make the decision about college not to be hesitant. She says, "There's so much help there at Sampson that will help guide you in the right way and the best way without wasting time...the community and the atmosphere is so amazing...don't be afraid."

Over the years, Sampson Community College has been a steppingstone on the academic and professional journeys of many people. For Sophie Miller, it was the beginning step on a journey that led toward North Carolina State University and now Campbell University School of Pharmacy.



## Mintz Christian Academy

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# Postmodern Postseason: How Christians Should Think About the Houston Astros Scandal



By Will Matthews

"If you build it, he will come."

That is the classic line in the 1989 movie, Field of Dreams. The iconic baseball movie is about Ray Kinsella (played by Kevin Costner), who is inspired by a voice whispering in a corn field to build a baseball diamond on his property. A farmer dependent on the corn crop for his livelihood, Ray is determined to build the baseball field whether or not he goes bankrupt and loses his family in the process. Ray wrestles with what is right, what is wrong, and what his duty is. In an existential encounter with his deceased friend Terance Mann (played by James Earl Jones), Terance says, "This field, this game: it's a part of our past, Ray. It reminds us of all that once was good and it could be again. Oh... people will come Ray. People will most definitely come."

Indeed, baseball is a part of America's past. Often hailed as "America's pastime," baseball has held a prominent position in Americana spirit. Names like Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, Joe DiMaggio, Jackie Robinson and Hank Aaron are household names that have inspired multiple generations of Americans. Through the decades, however, there have been multiple black eyes for the sport that many grew up loving. In 1919, the Chicago White Sox threw the World Series intentionally to line their pockets with cash, resulting in eight players being excommunicated from the game. In 1989, Pete Rose was given a lifetime ban from baseball following a gambling scheme. Throughout the 90's, performance enhancing drugs and steroids were commonplace in baseball locker rooms, blighting the reputation of many star players and their accomplishments. Recently, the Houston Astros were caught in a sign-stealing scandal that helped win them the 2017 World Series.

According to official Major League Baseball investigation, (<https://img.mlbstatic.com/mlb-images/image/upload/mlb/cglrhmlrwwbkacty2717.pdf>) the Astros were using electronic equipment to steal signs, giving batters the distinct advantage of knowing what pitch was coming next. This inside information led them to capture the 2017 World Series title and win many games in subsequent seasons. The controversy resulted in moral confusion: some, including current professional baseball players, calling for harsher penalties and some saying "so what?" That was essentially the reaction from Jim Crane, owner of the Houston Astros, during a recent press conference expressing minimal regret that the franchise had been caught breaking the rules, but not admitting they had cheated or that they had tampered with the integrity of the game.

How should believers with a biblical worldview think about this massive sports scandal?

First, we need to remember that sports are good because they are from God. Sports finds root in the cultural mandate of Genesis 2. When God placed Adam in the garden, he gave him instruction not to eat of the fruit from the tree of good and evil. Adam had the ability and the freedom to enjoy the fruit from all the other trees around him. His purpose for being in the garden was not only to maintain and develop it, but to enjoy it. Leisure and play become sports when they are governed by rules and regulations and a reward is offered to the competitor. We enjoy sports because we enjoy delighting in what God has created. Sports celebrates the dignity of humans in personhood, knowledge, and freedom. Second, we need to remember that sports are touched by sin. The fall of man has corrupted every sphere of life, including sports. The conflict between the serpent and man in the garden revolved around competing views of God's character. The serpent deceived Eve into believing that God was keeping something from her and her husband, stating "In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5). From that moment, desire took primacy over obedience to God and idolatry entered human history. It should be no surprise to us when we see things like idolatry, greed, narcissism, violence and a blatant disregard for rules in sports. This is the reality of brokenness in the world.

Third, we can use events like these to share the gospel. There has been very little remorse or asking forgiveness in this baseball scandal because in a society where postmodernism is embraced, there is no right and wrong. When morality is subjective, there will be crisis. The current cultural confusion, however, whether it be sports, entertainment, education, or politics, presents believers with an opportunity to share the gospel. There are ways that believers can incarnate the gospel, living by a higher standard and boldly being obedient to that standard just as Jesus did.



Will Matthews

# The Value of Prayer

By Ken Smith



*1 Thessalonians 5:17-19, "Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. Quench not the Spirit."*

Have you found it hard to pray? Maybe your mind wanders and you have to really concentrate because you start thinking about your children's school work, what chores that have to be done at home or even what to prepare for supper. Sometimes it's a real challenge to make sure that every word we pray intentionally expresses our thoughts to God.

With all the distractions God still established prayer as a means by which we can communicate about every circumstance of our lives. Regardless of our success, failure, happiness, despair, ambition and uncertainty God still invites us to pray about all of our concerns. The apostle Paul wrote in Philippians 4:6-7, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Simply, but powerful communication with God through prayer benefits all aspects of our life.

Whenever Jesus faced any kind of challenge, when he was called upon to heal someone, or when he faced crucifixion or when he felt deeply grateful for God's blessings or when he fed five thousand hungry followers, Jesus turned to his Father in Heaven in prayer. If it was important for Jesus to pray, how much more important is our need for prayer? Martin Luther proclaimed, "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." Prayer is the fuel in our spiritual vehicle. The more we pray the closer we will move into the will of God.

Prayer is invaluable because God is all-powerful. While we are weak, we can find strength by forming a partnership with God. While we are ignorant, we can find wisdom by asking God for it. If our prayer life has become insincere, then perhaps it's time to fortify our commitment to pray more consistently. For when we pray without ceasing, we get help without disruption. Dr. Adrian Rogers once stated, "The prayer offered to God in the morning during your quiet time is the key that unlocks the door of the day. Any athlete knows that it is the start that ensures a good finish." How we view prayer often can compare to the relationship we have with our Creator.



Ken Smith

This week I encourage you to remember that God is always willing to listen to our prayers. Don't just turn to him in the coming days when the world seems to be falling apart, but turn to Him when joy is over flowing in your life. Max Lucado said, "Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference." Prayer can and will change anything that stands against you.



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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

# Sports stars

By Erika Enigk  
More Content Now

Becoming a great athlete takes a great deal of talent, hard work and determination. But for black athletes, it can take even more. Years ago, black athletes who played on the same fields as white athletes received threats and were called hurtful names, something that sometimes still happens today, too. Fortunately for all Americans, there have been many black athletes that have made contributions that made their sports more exciting for everyone.

## Trailblazers

There was a time when people of color weren't allowed to play on sports teams with white people. But changing times and trailblazers made history. Jackie Robinson became the first black baseball Major League Baseball player in 1947. Runner Jesse Owens won four Olympic gold medals in 1936 and was known in his time as the best runner ever. Alice Coachman Davis was the first black woman to win an Olympic gold medal when she competed in the high jump in 1948. And Wilma Rudolph was the first American woman to win three gold medals in track and field in the 1960 Olympics.

It might seem like all of these standouts lived a long time ago, but there are plenty of black athletes making history today. In 2012, Gabby Douglas became the first person of color to

win the Individual All-Around competition in gymnastics.

## Today's stars

If you like gymnastics, you've probably heard of Simone Biles. She's won more World Championships than any other athlete and has won a medal in every event she competes in. This summer, she's expected to compete in the Olympic Games in Japan and set a new record for the most medals won by an American gymnast. Another standout is Noah Lyles. He's a runner who set the world record for the 300-meter indoor run and is expected to go to the Olympic Games this year, too.

LeBron James, who plays basketball for the Los Angeles Lakers, is often compared to Michael Jordan as the best basketball player of all time. In golf, Tiger Woods — who has described himself as “Cablinasian” (Caucasian, black, American Indian and Asian) — is one of the greatest of all time and is still chasing records.

Sometimes greatness runs in the family. Serena Williams has won 23 major singles titles in tennis, and her sister, Venus Williams, is the only tennis player to have won medals at four different Olympic Games.

So who will the next great black athlete be? Maybe it will be you or someone you know! Or maybe it will just be someone you can watch and enjoy as their hard work pays off.



◀ Jackie Robinson



▲ Simone Biles



◀ LeBron James



▲ Wilma Rudolph



◀ Tiger Woods



▲ Serena Williams



◀ Venus Williams

## Activity: Can you break the record?

Here are some of the most impressive records set by black athletes in history. See how your skills stack up.

**Basketball:** 55 rebounds in a game (Wilt Chamberlain)

**Baseball:** 73 home runs in a season (Barry Bonds)

**Running:** 100m in 10.49 seconds (Florence Griffith Joyner)

**Football:** 7 sacks in a game (Derrick Thomas)

WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTOS

## ANGELS FROM THE ATTIC

By Mark Marderosian



CRIME REPORT

02-11 Israel Tramell Melvin, 20, Clinton. Possess Marijuana. Trial Date 03-23-20

02-12 Nellie Austin Oates, 69, Clinton. Domestic Simple Assault. Trial Date 03-03-20

02-12 Marcus Darrell Underwood, 44, Clinton. Larceny, Trespass. Bond \$5000. Trial Date 03-10-20

02-12 Bertha Ann Williams, 55, Clinton. Misuse of 911 System. Bond \$3000. Trial Date 03-06-20

02-12 Dilma Gloria Salgado, 27, Turkey. Fail to Comply with Community Service. Bond \$500. Trial Date 03-03-20

02-13 Corey Glenn Hardison, 35, Salemburg. Shoplifting. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 03-05-20

02-13 Jordan Matthew Lilliston, 21, Dunn. Possess Meth, Breaking and Entering residence. Bond \$10000. Trial Date 02-21-20

02-13 Crystal Renee Vancleave, 33, Wilmington. Shoplifting, Second Degree Trespass. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 03-05-20

02-13 Corey Glenn Hardison, 35, Salemburg. Shoplifting, Habitual Larceny. Bond \$4000. Trial Date 03-05-20

02-13 Patsy Jordan Wynn, 54, Garland. Trespass. Bond \$500. Trial Date 02-13-20

02-14 Mydesha Sentora Draughon, 24, Clinton. Misdemeanor Larceny. Trial Date 03-12-20

02-14 Adrian David Merritt, 29, Clinton. Breaking & Entering, (OFA) Second Degree Trespass, (OFA) Posses Drug Paraphernalia. Bond \$11200. Trial Date 03-05-20

02-14 William Travis Pope, 31, Clinton. OFA-FTC-Child Support. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 02-25-20

02-14 Wayne Richard Kinzly, 46, Salemburg. OFA-FTC-Child Support. Bond \$549.24. Trial Date 02-18-20

02-15 Markea Kaylena Kerr, 18, Auryville. Revoked Tags. Trial Date 04-02-20

02-16 Ryan Eric Carr, 34, Clinton. Assault on a Female. Trial Date 03-16-20

02-16 Carla Ellen Waiter, 28, Clinton. Fail to Wear Seat Belt Driver, DWLR Not Impaired Rev, Speeding. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 02-21-20

02-17 Lykkheim Ty-Shaun Simmons, 26, Clinton. AWDWIKISI, Shooting

into Occupied Dwelling, Possess Firearm by Felon, Damage to Property. No Bond. Trial Date 02-21-20

02-17 Christopher Jarrod McDoe, 28, Clinton. AWDWIKISI, Shooting into Occupied Dwelling, Possess Firearm by Felon, Damage to Property, RDO. No Bond. Trial Date 02-21-20

02-17 Takila Jamecia Aflord, 36, Rose Hill. Simple Assault. Trial Date 02-20-20

02-17 Kordell Earl Simpson, 32, Clinton. Expired Registration Card/Tag, DWLR Not Impaired Rev. Bond \$500. Trial Date 03-09-20

02-17 Raymond Keith Boone, 38, Clinton. Possession of Stolen Firearm, Trafficking in MDMA (possession), Trafficking in MDMA (transport), Possession of firearm by felon, Felony Possession of Schedule VI. Bond \$75000. Trial Date 02-21-20

02-17 Calvin Tyshon Alford, 27, Clinton. Driving while license revoked not impaired, Operate vehicle with no insurance. Bond \$1000. Trial Date 03-09-20

02-17 Don Christopher Smith, Clinton. Injury To Personal Property, Assault On A Female. Trial Date 03-16-20

02-17 Keith Delonte Jackson, 30, Jacksonville. Trafficking MDMA, Possess Marijuana, Possess Paraphernalia. Bond \$50000. Trial Date 02-21-20

02-17 Johnnie Melvin, 71, Garland. Expired Registration Card/Tag, DWLR not Impaired. Bond \$500. Trial Date 03-06-20

02-18 Qwandrick Rashad Oates, 28, Newton Grove. FTA- DWLR Not Impaired Rev, FTA- Expired Registration Card/ Tag. Bond \$500. Trial Date 03-11-20

02-18 Travis Brett Williams, 24, Auryville. Probation Violation. Bond \$15000. Trial Date 03-02-20

02-18 Edwin Arturo Callejas, 19, Clinton. Driving while license revoked not impaired. Bond \$500. Trial Date 02-20-20

02-18 Kimberly Krug Wilson, 52, Clinton. Possession of drug paraphernalia, Possession of heroin. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 03-06-20

02-18 Alex Maurice Bailey, 36, Salemburg. Child Support. Bond \$1518.58. Trial Date 02-25-20

02-18 Sandra Leggett, 60, Clinton. Assault with Deadly Weapon. Trial Date 03-10-20

02-18 David Kyle Rivenbark, 35,

Teachey. Fail to Comply. Bond \$380. Trial Date 03-12-20

02-18 Luis Alberto Rodriguez, 29, Dunn. Child Support – FTC. Bond \$2000. Trial Date 02-25-20

02-18 Isaiah Jeremiah Fennell-Best, 20, Turkey. Possession Stolen Goods/Property- FTA, DWLR Not Impaired Rev -FTA, Speeding – FTA. Bond \$9000. Trial Date 03-13-20

02-18 Anthony Lavel Parker, 47, Godwin. DWI. Fail to Maintain Lane Control, DWLR. Bond \$500. Trial Date 03-03-20

02-18 Mildred Michelle Suggs, 38, Clinton. Injury to Personal Property. Bond \$500. Trial Date 02-20-20

02-18 Jamie Lee Beach, 48, Roseboro. Attempt to Obtain Property by False Pretense, Uttering Forged Instrument, Uttering Forged Endorsement. Bond \$5000. Trial Date 02-21-20

02-19 Alexander Dean Nettles, 31, Angier. Poss Marijuana Paraphernalia, Communicating Threats, DWLR, Poss Drug Paraphernalia, Simple Poss Marijuana. Trial Date 04-09-20

02-19 Logan Ansley Parrish, 25, Dunn. Order for Arrest- FTC-Child Support. Bond \$10000. Trial Date 04-03-20

02-19 Antwan Romeo Rich, 26, Salemburg. Trespass. Trial Date 03-17-20

02-19 Rhonda Kaye Williams, 24, Roseboro. DWLR- Not Impaired. Bond \$500. Trial Date 03-10-20

02-19 Shane Earl Mckoy, 26, Roseboro. Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Possession of Methamphetamine. Bond \$5000. Trial Date 03-06-20

02-19 Matthew Conan Thompson, 34, Clinton. Possess Marijuaua.

02-19 Anthony Michael Clarke, 31, Lillington. DWLR, Speeding. Bond \$500.

02-20 Alexander William Bowman, 33, Clinton. DWI. Bond \$4000. Trial Date 04-16-20

INCIDENT REPORTS

02-12 Carlie C’s of Clinton reported Shoplifting of merchandise \$218.07.

02-12 Diane Norris Burchette of Clinton reported Larceny and Trespassing.

02-12 Walmart of Clinton reported Shoplifting. Assorted Merchandise valued at \$181.

02-13 Walmart of Clinton reported Shoplifting. Assorted Merchandise valued at \$52.

02-14 Richard Curtis Christianson of Clin-

ton reported Damage to Property- vehicle tire \$100.

02-14 Geraldine Morales reported Larceny- stolen wallet \$20.

02-14 Corey Devane Bennett of Clinton reported Larceny of handbag \$100.

02-14 Laura Lewis Laurie of Godwin reported All Other Larceny of medication.

02-15 Burkes Outlet reported Shoplifting of Men’s Watch- \$40.

02-15 LTV Vending of Faison reported Theft From vending machine and Damage to Personal Property- stolen snacks \$50, Cash \$200, and Damage to Vending Machine \$350.

02-15 Nelson Greene Purvis of Salemburg reported Burglary/Breaking & Entering. Stolen tools and battery valued at \$400.

02-16 Abel Cruz Hernandez of Faison reported All Other Larceny. Stolen iPhones and currency valued at \$1180.

02-16 Jamiroquia Dashawn Faison of Turkey reported Larceny of firearm- handgun valued at \$500.

02-16 Johnathan Faircloth of Auryville reported a Burglary/Breaking & Entering and Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property- stolen trailer \$5000, ATV \$3000, Dirt Bike \$1200, asst tools valued at \$2750, Generator \$500, Air Compressor \$600, Welder \$350, Television \$600. Damage to fence \$800.

02-17 Burch Farms of Faison reported Motor Vehicle Theft- Semi Truck \$40000, Trailer \$25000.

02-17 Gina Stone Bass of Dunn reported Larceny of Trail Camera- \$350.

02-19 Sarah Amanda Oates of Roseboro reported Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property- \$500.

02-19 Glenn Wayne Williams of Dunn reported Burglary/Breaking & Entering and Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property- Damage \$300.

02-19 St Thomas AME Zion Church of Roseboro reported Burglary/Breaking & Entering- damage to door \$500.

*\* The Crime Report is provided by the Sampson County Sheriff’s Office and the Clinton City Police Department.*

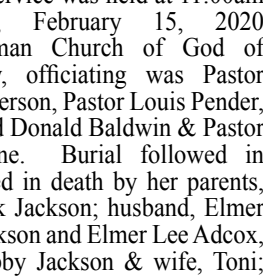
OBITUARIES



**STEDMAN**  
**Ms. Nellie Grace Adcox, 85** passed away Wednesday, February 12, 2020 at Bethesda Healthcare Facility in Eastover. A Celebration of Life service was held at 11:00am Saturday, February 15, 2020 at Stedman Church of God of Prophecy, officiating was Pastor Jim Dickerson, Pastor Louis Pender, Reverend Donald Baldwin & Pastor Gary Horne. Burial followed in the church cemetery. She is preceded in death by her parents, Hubbard Jackson and Bertie Bullock Jackson; husband, Elmer Lee Adcox, Sr.; and sons, Donald Jackson and Elmer Lee Adcox, Jr. She is survived by her son, Bobby Jackson & wife, Toni; daughter, Rhonda Adcox; sisters, Joyce Bathke and Lois Smith; brother, Roy Jackson; 7 grandchildren; 8 great-grandchildren; and 6 great-great-grandchildren. Arrangements by Butler Funeral Home of Stedman.

**FAYETTEVILLE**  
**Irene Elliott, Age 102,** of 260 Long Hill Rd., Fayetteville, NC died Monday, February 17, 2020 at her residence. Funeral service was held Friday, February 21, 2020 at Piney Grove FWB Church, 244 Slocomb Rd. Fayetteville, NC at 12 Noon. Interment: Piney Grove FWB Church Cemetery, Fayetteville, NC. Family received friends from 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon on Friday, February 21, 2020 at the church. Ms. Elliott is survived by two daughters: Mrs. Frances Butler (Timmy) of Roseboro, NC and Mrs. Shirley Ray (James) of Fayetteville, NC, one son: Mr. Frankie Elliott (Flora) of Fayetteville, NC, one sister: Verna Brown of Wake Forest, NC. Twelve grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. Butler & Son Funeral Home, Inc. 10501 Roseboro Hwy Roseboro, NC 28382.

**DUNN**  
**Mrs. Jean Warren Merritt Godwin, 88,** died Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at Betsy Johnson Memorial Hospital with her family by her side. Jean was born March 24, 1931 in Cumberland County, the only child of the late Glenn and Eva Moore Warren. Jean was preceded in death by her first husband,



Howard Merritt, her second husband, Tommy Godwin and a step grandchild. Jean graduated from Clinton High School and attended nurses training at NC Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem. She married Howard Merritt from Delway, where they made their home with their two children. Jean and Howard were very active in their church and community. As a young family, they were honored as Farm Family of the Year in Sampson County, and later were named N.C. State Grange Young Couple of the Year for their church and community work. When her children were older, Jean began working as secretary and bookkeeper at Union High School, a job she held for almost ten years. Howard, her husband, died suddenly of a heart attack in 1979. Years later Jean met and married Tommy Godwin of Dunn and were happily married for almost 30 years. Jean continued to reside in Dunn after Tommy’s death in 2012. Jean was a member of First Baptist Church of Dunn, the Dunn Woman’s Club, and enjoyed playing bridge with her friends. She also enjoyed spending time at Topsail Beach. Funeral services for Jean will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, February 22, 2020 at First Baptist Church of Dunn with Dr. Len Keever and Rev. Hank Dunbar officiating. Burial will follow at Trinity United Methodist Church Cemetery, 1690 Trinity Church Rd., Magnolia, NC 28453 at 1:30 p.m. Jean is survived by her two children, Kathy M. Cherry and husband Bill of Topsail Beach, and Dail Merritt and wife Debbie of Holly Ridge; four grandchildren; six great grandchildren; two step children, Locke Godwin and wife Mary Sue, and Mary Sue Barbour and husband Wayne; eight step grandchildren and ten step great grandchildren. Visitation will be at 10:00 a.m., one hour prior to the service at First Baptist Church of Dunn. Memorial contributions will be welcome at Trinity Methodist Church, or First Baptist Church of Dunn. Arrangements by Skinner & Smith Funeral Home in Dunn.

**AUTRYVILLE**  
**Carrie Mae Golden 89** passed away on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at her home. Carrie Mae Golden was born on October 30, 1930 to the late Roosevelt and Mary Bell Bradley in Bullock County, Georgia. Carrie received her wings on February 11, 2020. She attended Crenshaw Elementary School in Statesboro, Georgia. Carrie worked at Hines Laundry as an attendant. Later Carrie moved to Philadelphia, PA where she worked at Tobins Restaurant as a hostess. She loved to dress and was a diva like no other. Carrie was loved by many. Carrie loved to travel and saw many places. Carrie was a #1 cook making the best nut cake, mouthwatering stuffing, collard greens and her famous fried chicken. Carrie was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 32of Pennsylvania. Carrie accepted Christ at an early



age, joining Royal Victory Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. C.H. Royal, later serving as the First Lady of Golden Gate Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. Walter Golden. Carrie sung on the choir and prayer band. Carrie the joined New ERA Baptist Church under the leadership of Louis Ellis and later joined New Way Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. L.V. Johnson, Sr. Carrie loved the Lord and was a God fearing woman. In addition to her parents Carrie was also preceded in death by5 siblings Ralph Mason, Lonnie Williams, Dorothy Shipman, Earthese Bradley and Ray Bradley. Celebration of Carrie’s Life will be held at 12:00 pm on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Chapel, 1246 Hobbton Hwy. Clinton, NC. Carrie leaves to cherish her memories Bernard Phillips and David Phillips of North Carolina, Gerald Jackson (Lori) of New Jersey, Jimmy Jackson (Harriet) , Joey Jackson, Wayne Golden, Carlette Golden, Timothy Golden, Jessica Golden, Toya Golden, Mary Golden, Kevin Golden of PA. The late Janet Jackson and Linda Phillips will be waiting at the gates to welcome her in. She also had 2 boys who although was her grandkids they were raised as her kids; Seann Collins and his younger brother Jimmy Collins who reveiled his wings in 2006. 3 sisters La’Blanch Dewache Register of Ga., Carolyn Lovette of Statesboro, Ga., Jacqueline Royal of PA., brother Harvey Bladley of Killeen, Texas, a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

**ROSEBORO**  
**Glynn Scott Grady, 56,** of 780 East Clinton Street, passed away on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at Kitty Askins Hospice in Goldsboro. Glynn was born in Wayne County June 28, 1963 to Rose Marie (Hall) Grady and the late Glynn D. Grady. In addition to his mother, Glynn leaves behind his two daughters: Shandi Grady of Sneads Ferry, and Kelsi Grady of Georgia, one son: Maxx Grady of Sneads Ferry, one brother: Chris Grady and fiancé Lori of Roseboro, one sister: Michelle and husband Jeff of Clinton, two nieces: Taylor and Britni Grady, and two nephews: Mackenzie Grady and Blake Hunter. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, February 23, 2020 at 5:30PM at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Chapel located at 1246 Hobbton Hwy, Clinton, NC 28328 with Rev. Greg Smith officiating. A visitation will follow the memorial service.



**CLINTON**  
**Doris Evelyn Honeycutt, 87,** of Blaney Street, Clinton,

# OBITUARIES

passed away Wednesday, February 12th. A funeral service was held at 2 PM, Saturday, February 15, at Crumpler-Honeycutt Funeral Home with Rev. Anthony Smith officiating. Interment followed at Grandview Memorial Garden. The family received friends from 1 PM to 2 PM, at the funeral home just before the service. Doris, born in 1932, was the daughter of the late Henry J. Andrews and Ellen Lane Andrews. She along with her husband, Bobby, were owner and operators of Bobby's Grill. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by her husband, Bobby Honeycutt, son, Donald Glenn Honeycutt, and brothers, Leonard Andrews and Kelvin Andrews, and sister Martha Andrews Cottle. Survivors include; children, Terry and wife Beth Honeycutt and Sue Honeycutt; grandchildren, Garrett Honeycutt and Spencer Honeycutt; brother, Melvin Andrews; and, sister, Jo Ann Young. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.crumplerhoneycutt.com](http://www.crumplerhoneycutt.com).



**CLINTON**  
**Richard Hunter, Age-59, 3367** H.B. Lewis Rd., Clinton, NC died Sunday, February 16, 2020 at Kitty Askins Hospice Center in Goldsboro, NC. Funeral service will be held Saturday, February 22, 2020 at 1:00 pm at Butler & Son Funeral Services, 410 N. Blvd. Clinton, NC. Interment: Hillcrest Cemetery, Clinton, NC with Military Honors. Visitation: Friday, February 21, 2020 from 1:00 to 6:00 pm with family present 5:00 to 6:00 pm. at Butler & Son Funeral Services, Clinton, NC. Butler & Son Funeral Services Clinton, NC.

**SALEMBURG**  
**Richard "Pete" James, Age 73,** of 684 Lakewood School Rd., Salemburg, NC died Saturday, February 15, 2020 at UNC Chapel Hill. Funeral service was held Saturday at 1:00 pm at Butler & Son Funeral Home, Roseboro, NC. Interment: Roseboro Cemetery, Roseboro, NC with Military Honors. Visitation: Friday, February 21, 2020 from 1:00 to 8:00 pm with family present 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Butler & Son Funeral Home, Inc. Roseboro, NC.



**FAYETTEVILLE**  
**Robert (Bobby) Lucas 78** of 1734 Eastover Street Fayetteville died Friday February 14th, 2020 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center in Fayetteville. Bobby as he was affectionally know as was born December 12, 1941 in Sampson County, NC to the late Purdo and Verma Tart Lucas, he worked in maintenance at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, in addition to his parents Bobby is also preceded in death by sister Jean Tindall. Graveside Service was held 1:00p.m. Tuesday February 18th, 2020 at the Grandview Memorial Gardens 2809 us 421 N. Clinton, North Carolina. Bobby leaves to cherish his memories: his wife of 38 years Janie McLamb Lucas of the home, children Steve Stallings of Roseboro, NC, Catherine Haney of Roseboro, NC, Johanna Lucas Gautier of Fayetteville, NC, Robert Lucas II of Roseboro, NC and Keystina Fann of Fayetteville, NC, Brothers Larry (Elgie) Lucas of Roseboro, NC and Jerry (Connie) Lucas also of Roseboro, NC Sister Judy Lucas of Rosehill, NC, grandchildren Abigail Gautier and Mlyot Fann both of the home, Devon, Donnie, DeWayne, Joan, Monica, Mary, Austin and Robert and 14 great-grandchildren. Visitation for family and friends was held from 11:00a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Tuesday February 18th, 2020 at the Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Chapel 1246 Hobbton Highway Clinton North Carolina.

**GARLAND**  
**Mr. Roger "Little Mac" Lennell McLymore, 62,** of 474 West 2nd St., Garland, NC died Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at Fayetteville VA Medical Center in Fayetteville, NC. Mr. McLymore was born July 17, 1957 in Sampson County. Mr. McLymore is preceded in death by his mother Rosie McLymore, one sister Candace McLymore Carr and one brother James McLymore. A Memorial service will be held at 3:00 PM on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at Carter Funeral Home in Garland, NC. Mr. McLymore is survived by his father Fletcher McLymore of Roseboro, NC, one son Kojak Bailey of Clinton, NC, one daughter April Murphy of Garland, NC, two sisters Phyllis McLymore (Theo) of Roseboro, NC, Shirley Reid (Sonny) of Richmond, VA, two brothers Robert McLymore of Fayetteville, NC, James McLymore of Richmond, VA, special friends Amanda Williams, Claudia & Buster Matthis, Becky & Derrick Smith, Samantha "Ann" Stevens, three uncles Robert "Sonny" McLymore (Beatrice) of Fayetteville, NC, Bobby McLymore (Linda) of Roseboro, NC, Ronnie McLymore (Pamela) of Sanford, NC and one aunt Linda Jefferson (Harry) of Richmond, VA. Service by Carter Funeral Home, Garland.



**WADE**  
**Diane Nunnery** of 4009 Lofton Street, Wade, departed this life on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at Duke University Hospital, being 73 years of age. She was born on August 10, 1946 in Lee County, North Carolina to the late Braxton Joyner and the late Ida Mclemore Joyner McPhail. She was also preceded in death by her sister: Peggy Vitti and her brother: Larry Joyner. Diane spent her entire life in selfless service to others. She spent over twelve years caring for the residents of Golden Years Nursing Home in Godwin. She lovingly nurtured and cared for her family. Even after her children were grown and out on their own, if one of them even hinted at having so much as the sniffles, she came to their aid with tissues, chicken noodle soup and a thermometer. She fiercely loved her family. Diane was a remarkable cook. That was truly evident during Thanksgiving and Christmas, when she would prepare her lists for weeks prior and then proceed to cook a feast large enough to feed all of Wade, her specialties were her baked goods, cakes and pies! She had such a big heart, she even took time to take care of the little hummingbirds that would come buzzing around her window sill. Diane leaves behind to honor her legacy her husband of 45 years: John "Butch" Nunnery; four children: Kimberly Briza and husband Edward of Autryville, Kenny Duncan and girlfriend Debra Johnson of Dunn, Missy Cordero of Wade, and Cory Nunnery and wife Danielle of Wade; daughter-in-law: Melissa Duncan of Wade; four grandchildren: Eddie Briza, Christian Duncan, Tristan Briza and Regan Duncan; two great-grandchildren: Daniel Wilson and Trey Briza; two granddogs: Bela and Zeus; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends. You are cordially invited to a time

of visitation on Sunday, February 23, 2020 from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM at Cromartie-Miller Funeral Home and at other times at the home. A funeral service to commemorate the life of Diane Nunnery will be conducted at 4:00 PM on Sunday, February 23, 2020 in the chapel of Cromartie-Miller Funeral Home with Rev. Ronnie Grizzle officiating.



**ROSE HILL**  
**Stephen James O'Dell 63** of 108 South Hall Street passed away on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at Vidant Hospital in Greenville, NC. Stephen was born on December 20, 1956 in New York to the late Roger J. O'Dell Sr. and Dorothy H. O'Dell. In addition to his parenst he is also preceded in death by grandson Jeremy Annis, sister, Judy Barnes and a brother; Ricky O'Dell. Funeral Services will be held at 3:00 pm on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Chapel, 1246 Hobbton Hwy. Clinton with burial following at Garland Community Cemetery in Garland. He leaves behind to cherish his memories: daughters; Dawn O'Dell Annis (Larry) and Mary O'Dell (Darrin) and one grandson Jack. Brothers; Roger J. O'Dell Jr (Laurie), of Canada, Randolph O'Dell, Timothy O'Dell and Robert White all of North Carolina, sisters; Sandra O'Dell Herring, Lisa O'Dell and Maureen O'Dell all of North Carolina and Darlene O'Dell of New York. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. A visitation will be held from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm prior to the service on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Chapel, 1246 Hobbton Hwy. Clinton.



**GARLAND**  
**Mrs. Louise Cain Packer, 89,** 2620 Helltown Rd. Garland, died February 15, 2020 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center, in Fayetteville, NC. Mrs. Packer was born September 18, 1930 in Robeson County. Mrs. Packer is preceded in death by her parents Azzie and Bonnie Cain, her husband Ernest Packer, one brother Azzie Paul Cain, three sisters Lizzie Hester, Smithie Phelps and Claria Dove. Funeral service was held at 3:00 PM Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at Friendship Baptist Church in Garland. Interment followed at the church cemetery. Mrs. Packer is survived by two daughters; Susan P. Smith and husband Lynn of Garland, NC, Ernestine Macon and husband Randall of Trinity, NC, four grandchildren; Randy Macon and wife Sandy of Randleman, NC, Timothy Macon and wife Heather of Marion, NC, Ethan Smith and wife Jennifer of Garland, NC, Daniel Smith of Garland, NC, seven great-great-grandchildren; Christopher Macon and wife Stephanie, Matthew Macon and wife Rebecca, Caleb Smith, James Smith, Andrew, Adrian and Corin Macon and one great-great granddaughter; Madeline Macon. The family received friends on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 from 6:00 PM-8:00 PM at Carter Funeral Home in Garland.

**EASTOVER**  
**Ms. Edith Grey (Peterson) Parker, 93** passed away Friday, February 14, 2020 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. Funeral service was held at 11:00am Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at Lebanon Baptist Church, 3329 Beard Road, Eastover, officiating was Rev. Andy Wood and Rev. John Campbell. The family received friends at the church after the service. Burial took place at Parker Family Cemetery in Clinton. She is preceded in death by her parents, CB & Lola McLamb Peterson; husband, Fulton R. Parker; sisters, Gladys Peterson Sessoms and Peggy Peterson McCullen; and a brother, Claxton Peterson. She is survived by her daughters, Martha Parker Lampros (Steve) of Ocean Isle Beach and Ruth Anne "Rudy" Parker Goodman (Tony Bombaci) of Willard; granddaughter, Blaire Lampros Lanier (Eric) of Bolivia; great-grandson, Jack Lanier; caregivers, Ada Graham and Alice Lewis; and loving neighbors, Mack and Connie Page. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the NC Alzheimer's Association, 5171 Glenwood Avenue, #101, Raleigh, NC 27612. Services entrusted to Butler Funeral Home of Stedman.



**WILLARD**  
**Judy Ammons Sanderson, age 67,** of Willard, left this earthly life for her eternal rest on Monday, February 17, 2020. She was born on November 15, 1952 in Sampson County, NC; the daughter of the late Berry Carl and Lucille Register Ammons. Also lovingly remembered are her predeceased son, Mark Layton; sister, Ella Grace Register; brother, David Ammons and niece, Amanda Jean Ammons. Judy is survived by her husband of 34 years, Ronald Sanderson of the home; her daughter, Cindy Malone and husband, Tim of Willard; grandchildren, John Michael Malone, Kayla Marie Malone, Timothy Ray Malone and wife, Rebecca, Zachary Pickett, Reed Stafford and Nick Goulette and his wife, Meaghan; great grandchildren, Alaiiah Malone, John Malone, Jr., Rylan Henderson, Peyton Pickett, McKenna Malone, Britton Malone and Xander "Peanut" Goulette; sisters, Betty Jean Jones and husband, Bill of Delway, Faye Sparhawk and husband, Rhody of Roseboro and Lucy Morrow of Rose Hill; brother, Jimmy Ammons and wife, Louise of Sanford; niece, Destiny Ammons and husband, Jacob and Baby Colton Allen Ammons; nephews, David Ammons and his wife, Angela and Lucas Ammons; sister-in-law, Miranda Thompson and husband, Jasper of Rose Hill; brothers-in-law, Wayne Sanderson of Wallace and Lloyd Sanderson of SC and numerous friends and extended family that loved Judy dearly. Judy was a loving wife and caring mother, grandmother, sister who loved her family with all her heart. She found great joy in the simplest of things, but her greatest joy was family, especially the grandchildren. She was loved by all but mostly loved by her husband who took great care of her. Being a child at heart, Judy had a baby doll that she adored and was her constant companion during her illness. She enjoyed watching hummingbirds feed during the day and spending time with her loving family. Judy will surely be missed but cherished memories will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. The family received friends from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at Quinn-McGowen Funeral Home in Wallace. There was a celebration of life service for Judy from 2:00pm to 4:00pm on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at the home of Ronald and Judy Sanderson.



**HARRELLS**  
**Ms. Cathy "Kay" Sellars, 57,** of 60 Lula Green Lane, died Friday, February 14, 2020 at her residence. Ms. Sellars was born February 27, 1962 in Sampson County. Ms. Sellars is preceded in death by her mother Laura Elizabeth Newkirk Sellars. Funeral service was held at 1:00 PM Friday, February 21, 2020 at Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Ivanhoe, NC. Interment followed at Newkirk Cemetery in Harrells, NC. Ms. Sellars is survived by her father Ivory Sellars of Philadelphia, PA, one son; Jonathan Sellars (Jamecca) of Teachey, NC, one daughter; Tamika Sellars

of Harrells, NC, one brother; Johnny Sellars of Harrells, NC, two sisters; Anjenette Kerr of Harrells, NC, Brenda Highsmith (Connie) of Harrells, NC, four grandchildren; Tristan Lee Sellars, Jaden Sellars, Tamia Stewart-Sellars and Gregory Stewart-Sellars. The family received friends on Thursday, February 20, 2020 from 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM at Carter Funeral Home in Garland, and other times at the home of Anjenette Kerr 265 Cannady Rd., Harrells, NC. Service by Carter Funeral Home.



**CLINTON**  
**Miss Marjorie A. Shaw, 88** of Clinton, NC passed away on Thursday, February 13, 2020 at Southwood Nursing and Rehab Center, Clinton, NC. The funeral service will be held at 12pm, Monday, February 17, 2020 at Worley Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. John McCoy officiating. Burial in Springvale Cemetery.

Clinton, NC. Miss Shaw is survived by SISTERS-Patricia McKoy-Hoskins of Fayetteville, NC, Wilma Holding, LaRue Hall and Eldora Laws all of Clinton, NC. Visitation at Worley Funeral Home on Monday, February 17, 2020 11am-12pm. Online condolences may be sent to [worleyfuneralhomeinc.com](http://worleyfuneralhomeinc.com).

**CLINTON**  
**Romie Swinson 84** passed away on Friday, February 14, 2020 at Southwood Nursing Center. Evelina "Romie T" Swinson was born in Sampson County on December 20, 1935 to the late Booker T. and Ardelia Bookurn. Romie T attended Sampson County Schools and was united in holy matrimony to the late Paul Anthony Swinson in March of 1952. In her early years Romie worked at Sampson Regional and other local companies until transitioning into a stay at home wife and mother. Romie lived in Dogwood Circle forty- seven years, she was well known in the neighborhood cooking for others and speaking to everyone as they passed by. Some of her other hobbies included playing bingo, solving crossword puzzles, and completing weekly sudoku puzzles in the newspaper. Romie was also a hat collector, her outfit wasn't complete without one, preferably a fedora. Romie was a warm hearted, spiritual, and virtuous woman that never met a stranger. She was a beautiful wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend. Romie cared for others throughout the community, her infectious smile and heart touched generation after generation. She was referred to as the community mother and grandmother. Home Going Services will be held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at Snowhill Baptist Church, 531 Marion-Amos Rd, Roseboro, NC, burial will follow in the Sandhill Cemetery. Romie leaves her treasured memories to her forever soulmate: Jesse Jennings Jr. ; one sister: Mary Bookurn; one brother: Booker T. Bookurn Jr. ; seven sons: Jerome (Yvonne) Swinson, Terry (Rose) Swinson, David (Kim) Swinson, Wendell Swinson, Paul Swinson, Malcolm Sr Swinson, and Larry Swinson; two daughters: Mary (Oscar) Boykin and Patricia Swinson; bonus children: Tommy Beatty, Stanley Henry, and Paul Eason; eighteen grandchildren: Boo, Barbara, JT, Levy, Alex, Nicole, Kristie, Michael Ray, Myra, Samantha, Erika, Kevin, Tanisha, Jawan, Malcom Jr, Ashley, Brianna, Dommanique, Kimberly, and Katie; nineteen great-grandchildren, seven great-great grandchildren; a special family friend Rob Base King; and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. She is preceded in death by one son Paul June Swinson; one sister Veasther Smith; and three other "Dogwood Golden Girls" Bessie, Edna Earl, and Melt. Visitation will be held on Friday, February 21, 2020 from 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm with family present from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm at Hope Valley Hawkins Funeral Service & Cremation, 1246 Hobbton Hwy. Clinton.



**CLINTON**  
**Miss Ethel Mae Vann, 96,** of 180 Southwood Drive, Clinton, NC passed away Wednesday, February 19, 2020 Southwood Nursing Center, Clinton, NC. The arrangements are incomplete at this time. Online condolences may be sent to [worleyfuneralhomeinc.com](http://worleyfuneralhomeinc.com).



**SALEMBURG**  
**Robert "Bob" L. Grantham, Jr.** of Salemburg, departed this life on Friday, February 14, 2020 at his home. Bob was born on July 16, 1939 in Sampson County to Robert Lee Grantham, Sr. and Emma Godwin Grantham. Bob worked in insurance sales for over 27 years and with Sentry Vault Services for over 15 years. He proudly served his country in the United States Air Force. Bob leaves behind to honor his legacy, his wife Edna Sue Bass Grantham; children: Lee Grantham and wife Mazie of Salemburg, Jeffery Grantham and wife Susie of Williamsburg, VA, Russell Grantham of Clinton, and Susan Mireles and husband Eddie of Stedman; grandchildren: Keith Grantham, Kyle Grantham, Caroline Grantham, Lt. Lucas Mireles, Jacob Mireles and Ellie Mireles. A graveside service to commemorate the life of Robert "Bob" Grantham was held at 11:00 AM on Monday, February 17, 2020 in the Roberts Grove OFWB Church Cemetery with Dr. Ricky Warren officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Sharing Hands Of Roberts Grove Church, 725 Roberts Grove Road, Dunn, NC 28334. All arrangements are entrusted to Cromartie-Miller Funeral Home of Dunn. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.cromartiemiller.com](http://www.cromartiemiller.com).

**WHITE OAK**  
**Mrs. Doris Rice Moody, 74** of White Oak, passed away Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at Cape Fear Valley Medical Center. She was born December 23, 1945 in Bladen County and was the daughter of Abner W. and Ellen Jane Pleasants Rice. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Joseph Ben Moody; and one brother, Elwood Rice. She was a retired seamstress. She is survived by three daughters, Cynthia Lawless (Jim) of White Oak, Juanita Moody of White Oak, Stephanie Moody (Pernell) of White Oak; five grandchildren, Samantha Jackson Heustess (Lonnie), Courtney Melvin, Johnathan Melvin, Jr., Brianna McNeill, Javonta Matthews; two great grandchildren, Xander Heustess, Kennedy Heustess; one sister, Gail King of White Oak; two brothers, Jimmy Rice (Faye) of White Oak, Edwin Rice (Laura) of Elizabethtown; and special nephew, Charlie King. The funeral service will be held at White Oak Family Worship Center, 1944 Burney Road, White Oak, on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at 1:00pm with Reverend Randy Locklear officiating. Burial will follow in the Church Cemetery. The family will receive friends from 12:00 to 1:00pm prior to the service. Butler Funeral Home of Roseboro is serving the family.

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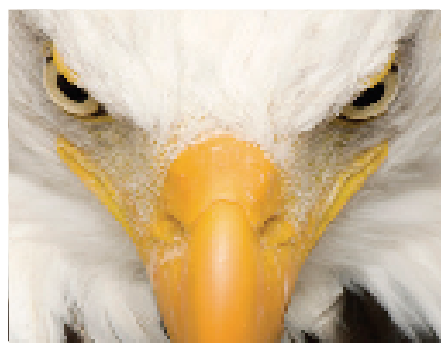
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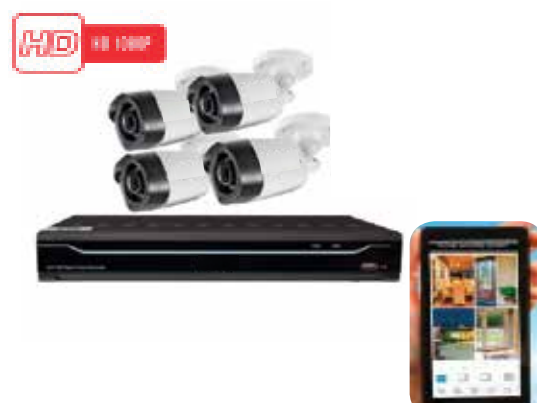
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# NASCAR THIS WEEK

The Daytona Beach News-Journal's Godwin Kelly & Ken Willis have covered NASCAR for nearly 60 years combined. [godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com](mailto:godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com) and [ken.willis@news-jrnl.com](mailto:ken.willis@news-jrnl.com)

## SPEED FREAKS

A few questions we had to ask ourselves

**Aside from the obvious, your review of Speedweeks?**  
**GODSPEAK:** As a whole, pretty tense racing. The Daytona 500 rain postponement was a bummer after a week's buildup.  
**KEN'S CALL:** It was enjoyable watching some of the new guys (Reddick, Bell, etc.) and non-superstars (Chastain, Stenhouse) get some attention.

**Anything from Speedweeks that might carry over to the western swing?**  
**GODSPEAK:** As we all know, the Daytona 500 is a unique animal, but I think the rookie class showed some of their skill. They were not afraid to mix it up with the veterans.  
**KEN'S CALL:** Godwin makes a good point (no, really!). Particularly the three newcomers who won a lot in Xfinity. They're not over their heads.

## GODWIN'S PICKS FOR LAS VEGAS

**WINNER:** Kevin Harvick  
**REST OF TOP 5:** Kyle Busch, Chase Elliott, Ryan Blaney, Denny Hamlin  
**FIRST ONE OUT:** Christopher Bell  
**DARK HORSE:** Clint Bowyer  
**DON'T BE SURPRISED IF:** Harvick flexes muscles in an early statement race for Stewart-Haas Racing.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**1** Lap by President Donald Trump at Daytona before race  
**6** Air Force Thunderbirds in Daytona 500 flyover  
**7** Races held during Daytona Speedweeks  
**40** Cars in Daytona 500 field  
**125,000** Estimated attendance for Daytona 500 (day 1)

## MOTOR MOUTHS PODCAST

Whose turn to squeegee out the Pod? We now have a season unfolding!

Tune in online at [www.news-journalonline.com/daytonamotormouths](http://www.news-journalonline.com/daytonamotormouths)



# LAS VEGAS

## THREE THINGS TO WATCH

### 1. Denny double?

The Daytona 500 offers few clues on how the NASCAR season will go for drivers, so keep an eye on Denny Hamlin, who came out of the chute with the big prize at Daytona. While Hamlin has won time and again at Daytona, he has not fared well at Las Vegas Motor Speedway during his career. The record book shows 16 starts and no wins. Joe Gibbs Racing has only three wins at the 1.5-mile "Sin City" track since 1998.

### 2. Regular racing

There were several drivers in Daytona who suggested the NASCAR season actually starts at Las Vegas, because it is a normal-sized course. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. won the Daytona 500 pole position and he said Daytona and Talladega are out of the norm. "We work these speedway races different," said Stenhouse, who drives the No. 47



**Denny Hamlin stands on his No. 11 Toyota in Victory Lane after winning the Daytona 500.** [N-J/DAVID TUCKER]

Chevrolet.

### 3. Ford & Toyota

Chevrolet has not seen much success in NASCAR's premier series over the last two seasons, so it redesigned the front and rear of its 2020 Camaro hoping for improvement. If a Chevy driver

wins at Las Vegas, that would be big news. Ford and Toyota drivers have won the last six races in the desert. Kevin Harvick was the last Chevy driver to win at Vegas and that was in 2015. He now wheels a Ford.

*Godwin Kelly, [godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com](mailto:godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com)*

# DAYTONA

## THREE THINGS WE LEARNED

### 1. Safety first

Ryan Newman's horrifying wreck and removal from the car after the last lap of the Daytona 500 is a good example of how far safety procedures have come over the last 20 years. Newman's No. 6 Ford slammed into the wall then was struck by another car. He was listed in serious condition with non-life-threatening injuries.

### 2. Daytona 24

The Daytona 500 was raced over two days. The 40-car field logged 20 laps on Sunday before NASCAR's biggest race was postponed by a series of showers.



**Ryan Newman crashes violently while approaching the checkered flag on the final lap of the Daytona 500.** [NEWS-JOURNAL/DAVID TUCKER]

President Donald Trump gave the command to fire engines and took a pace lap in the presidential limousine before heading back to Washington, D.C.

### 3. Elite company

Denny Hamlin's victory put him in elite company as a back-to-back

Daytona 500 champion. He became only the fourth driver to do it since the race started in 1959. The last driver to do it was Sterling Marlin over the 1994-95 seasons. The others are Richard Petty and Cale Yarborough.

*Godwin Kelly, [godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com](mailto:godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com)*

## QUESTIONS & ATTITUDE

Compelling questions ... and maybe a few actual answers

### How do you describe Ryan Newman's wreck to a non-fan?

First, these things are more likely to happen at Daytona (and Talladega) because of engine rules specific to those two huge tracks. The rules are designed to keep speeds from soaring to 210 and beyond, but they also serve to equalize the field and create large packs of cars, racing for the sport's biggest prize — and by the way they're still approaching 200 mph. It's a recipe for scary crashes.

### What happens now?

Hopefully, Ryan Newman will heal to 100%. NASCAR's R&D wizards will spend many hours dissecting the crash and looking for ways to lower the risk of serious injury in case of a similar wreck. And maybe someday someone will design a way to race at Daytona/Talladega that appears a bit more sane, yet keeps much of the drama.

*Ken Willis, [ken.willis@news-jrnl.com](mailto:ken.willis@news-jrnl.com)*

## CUP STANDINGS

1. Denny Hamlin	50
2. Ryan Blaney	43
3. Kevin Harvick	39
4. Chris Buescher	38
5. Ryan Newman	36
6. Kyle Larson	35
7. Chase Elliott	34
8. David Ragan	33
9. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	32
9. Aric Almirola	32
11. Clint Bowyer	31
12. Austin Dillon	30
12. Joey Logano	30
14. Corey LaJoie	29
15. Bubba Wallace	28
16. John Hunter Nemechek	26
17. Matt DiBenedetto	25
18. Erik Jones	24
19. Michael McDowell	23
20. Alex Bowman	22

### WHAT'S ON TAP

(All times Eastern)

**CUP SERIES:** Pennzoil 400  
**SITE:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway (1.5-mile quad-oval)  
**TV SCHEDULE:** Friday, practice (Fox Sports 1, 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.). Saturday, qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 2:30 p.m.). Sunday, race (Fox , coverage begins at 3 p.m., green flag at 3:30 p.m.)

**XFINITY:** Boyd Gaming 300  
**SITE:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway  
**TV SCHEDULE:** Friday, practice (Fox Sports 2, 2:30 p.m.). Saturday, qualifying, 1 p.m.), race (Fox Sports 1, 4 p.m.)

**GANDER RV & OUTDOORS TRUCK SERIES:** Strat 200  
**SITE:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway  
**TV SCHEDULE:** Friday, qualifying (Fox Sports 1, 5 p.m.), race (Fox Sports 1, 9 p.m.)



## KEN WILLIS' TOP 10 NASCAR DRIVER RANKINGS

KYLE BUSCH	KEVIN	MARTIN	CHASE	ERIK JONES	BRAD	JOEY	DENNY	RYAN	JIMMIE
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